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MATABELELAND:

THE WAR,

AND

Our Position

IN

South Africa

BY

ARCHIBALD R. COLQUHOUN

First Administrator of Mashonaland

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MATABELELAND:
THE WAR,
AND
OUR POSITION
IN
SOUTH AFRICA

WITH SKETCH MAP OF THE COUNTRY

BY

ARCHIBALD R. COLQUHOUN

First Administrator of Mashonaland

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PREFACE

THIS volume deals with the situation of the moment in South Africa, described by one who has had the best opportunities for observation on the spot. It is believed that a just appreciation of its bearings will aid towards accomplishing the development of what is already becoming another great English-speaking Colony.

Towards the end of 1889 I was employed by Mr. Rhodes in South Africa in drawing up regulations for Mashonaland, and other similar duties. My position gave me an intimate acquaintance with all the circumstances leading up to the Pioneer Expedition of 1890, which I accompanied officially, invested with a commission to assume the duties of Administrator of Mashonaland. The Manika Treaty, which secured a valuable territory for the British South Africa Company, was executed by me before taking up the appointment of Administrator and organizing the first settlement of Mashonaland.

In these pages I have refrained from any attempt

to give an elaborate historical *résumé* of past events, while placing within the reach of the general reader a connected narrative of the foundation and development of South Africa.

I would here specially draw attention to the fact that this book was practically written *before* any news from the seat of war had reached this country.

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge the great assistance I have obtained from such recent works on South Africa as those by Mr. Scott Keltie, Mr. Noble, Mr. Selous, Mr. Theal, and Mr. Mathers. I am also indebted to the proprietors of the *Graphic* for permission to utilize my contributions to that newspaper.

A. R. C.

ST. GEORGE'S CLUB, LONDON.

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CHAPTER I

SOUTH AFRICAN EXPANSION AND PARTITION

Bartholomew Diaz discovers South Africa—Vasco da Gama—The Cape a house of call for the Portuguese, Dutch, and English—Early Dutch colonization—Huguenot emigration—English expeditions of 1781 and 1795—The Cape restored to the Dutch in 1803—Final cession to England—Emancipation of the slaves—Natal declared an English colony in 1843—Orange Free State—History of the foundation of the South African Republic—British Protectorate of Bechuanaland—Order in Council of May 1891.

TO Bartholomew Diaz, the Portuguese sea-captain who was in command of the expedition fitted out in 1486 by John II., we are indebted for the discovery of Africa south of the tropic.

Diaz in his outward voyage landed at Angra Pequena, where he erected a marble inscribed cross, which remained there for more than three hundred years on the summit of a small eminence, until it was destroyed, probably by seekers for buried treasure. Remnants of this cross are now in the Lisbon museum; and "Pedestal Point," being the name of the place where it stood so long, still preserves the memory of the old landmark.

Continuing his journey to the southward, he eventually

sailed past the Cape of Good Hope, thence by an easterly course reaching a point the exact position of which cannot be identified, but which is believed to have been somewhere between Cape Agulhas and Knysna harbour; the expedition eventually reaching an islet in Algoa Bay, to which was given the name of Santa Cruz, Diaz having erected another cross there. Here his principal officers and seamen protested against continuing the voyage, but their commander at last persuaded them to sail for some three days further to the east. They then reached a bay near the mouth of the Gouritz River, whence they turned back.

The expedition on their return voyage discovered that great headland which on their voyage out they had passed by unobserved, to which they gave the name of Cabo Tormentoso, the Stormy Cape, or Cape of Torments; which name the King, on the arrival of the expedition at Lisbon, changed to that of the Cape of Good Hope, thus signifying his belief in the speedy realization of a new route to the Indies.

No further voyage of discovery was attempted during the remainder of the reign of King John II., who died in 1495, being succeeded by his relative, Don Emanuel, who soon after his accession caused a second expedition to be fitted out, in 1497, under the chief command of Vasco da Gama. Bartholomew Diaz did not accompany this voyage, but his experience gained during the first expedition was freely placed at his country's service.

Da Gama landed at a point, some hundred and twenty miles to the north of the Cape, to which he gave the name of St. Helena Bay, for the purpose of taking in water and making observations. It was here that the first intercourse took place between Europeans and any natives of South Africa.

Setting sail on the 17th of November 1497 from St. Helena Bay, the Cape of Good Hope was doubled three days later. Thence bearing to the eastward, a finely wooded coast-line was passed on the 25th of December, to which the name of Natal was given, in memory of the day when Christian men first saw it.

On the 6th of January 1498 the fleet reached the mouth of the river now known as the Manisa, which enters the sea on the northern side of Delagoa Bay. The Portuguese landed here, finding the natives, from whom they bought provisions and copper and ivory, very friendly.

After anchoring at Manisa for five days, the expedition set sail, touching at Sofala, near the mouth of the Pungwe River, and from thence continued their voyage due east until India was reached; thus accomplishing its object, and laying the foundation of a traffic which has had stupendous effect upon the history of the world.

The Portuguese did not follow up their discovery of the Cape and South Africa by any permanent settlement, and for upwards of one hundred years the Cape merely served as a place of call for their fleets to and from the East Indies, and was afterwards used for a similar purpose by the Dutch and English when they began to participate in the Eastern traffic.

In 1648 Captains Shillinge and Fitzherbert, in command of a fleet of the English East India Company, landed at Table Bay and proclaimed British sovereignty there; but their masters, the Company and King James I., not appreciating the value of a settlement in South Africa, refused to confirm their action.

The Dutch, however, fired by the reports of the fertility of the soil, the good climate, and the friendly character of

the natives, brought home by the crew of a vessel wrecked in Table Bay in 1648, and fully alive to the advantages of securing a permanent settlement, sent out an expedition in 1651, under the command of Jan Anthony van Riebeeck, a surgeon, who had made several voyages to the Cape and to India. His three vessels reached Table Bay on the 6th of April 1652.

A fort was built, the surrounding country explored, and in course of time some of it cultivated with wheat, barley, oats, and maize; vineyards established, horses introduced from Java, and woolled sheep and other domestic animals from Europe. Exploring expeditions were sent out towards the north with the object of inducing the natives of the country of the Zambesi basin to trade with the Dutch, and divert their traffic from the Portuguese, who were complained of as being cruel and overbearing, and whose outlets for trade were *via* Sofala and Mozambique.

The Dutch policy towards the native tribes, in accordance with orders from the home government, was conciliatory, and every effort was made to gain their confidence and good will, so as to encourage trade with them, and safe passage for exploring parties. Van Riebeeck was sorely tried at times by the thievish propensities of some of the tribes, and advised reprisals, but the Company refused to sanction such steps.

A scheme for settlement by emigrants from Holland was tried in 1657, but failed, as no persons could be induced to leave their country for the purpose. A new system, which laid the foundation of the Boer and Burgher population of South Africa, was then adopted. It consisted in granting their discharge to certain soldiers and sailors in the service of the Company, men of good character and

accustomed to the country, and allowing them to settle on lands allotted to them on the banks of the Liesbeek River at Rondebosch; and in 1670 such settlers numbered about ninety men.

The question of native and territorial rights soon followed the establishment of this colony, and in 1659 the first Cape Colonial war resulted from the predatory raids of some native tribes, who carried off the cattle and burnt the houses and corn of the settlers. Hostilities continued for some months, and the natives, being beaten in two engagements, then sued for peace, which was at once concluded, and an arrangement made by which both parties agreed not to molest each other in future; the Salt and Liesbeek Rivers being recognized as the boundary of the colony.

Further territorial expansion became necessary, and the Dutch, recognizing that the discontent shown by the native tribes in consequence of the appropriation of the lands which they had used for their cattle from time immemorial was neither surprising nor groundless, carried into effect a purchase of territory from two Hottentot chiefs, who claimed to be hereditary sovereigns, of a country from the Cape peninsula to Saldanha Bay, "lands, rivers, creeks, forests, and pastures inclusive," the purchase-money, equivalent to some £10 sterling, being paid in brandy, tobacco, beads, and other merchandise; the right of erecting kraals and grazing cattle over such arable lands or pastures as were not occupied by the colonists being reserved to the natives.

This cession was carried out in 1672, and from that day to this the history of South Africa may be said to be a constant succession of extensions of European settlement, and the recession or absorption of native tribes. In some few cases, races that were at one time distinct in manners,

customs, and language, have entirely disappeared—the result of internecine wars, sometimes by the acts of settlers from other parts, reprisals for acts of violence and revenge.

In 1688–89 Cape Colony received some three hundred Huguenot men, women, and children, driven from France upon the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and invited to settle in Africa by the Dutch East India Company, upon favourable terms as to free passage, grant of lands, implements, and seed; they, on the other hand, taking an oath of fidelity to the Company, and agreeing to reimburse the cost of all advances in kind. The descendants of these “exiles for religion’s sake” are now widely scattered over the whole of South Africa, while the French names they gave to their farms remain memorials of the places where they settled.

In the foregoing passages an attempt has been made to give a brief narrative of the history of the events that led to the first European colonization of South Africa, and it now remains to furnish an outline of the subsequent history of that country.

In 1781 the British Government planned an expedition to seize the Cape of Good Hope. Holland, having become allied with France, was an active enemy against England; and a French fleet, under Admiral Suffren, was despatched for the protection of the Dutch possessions at the Cape. Off the Cape de Verde Islands it met with the English fleet, under Commodore Johnstone. A severe engagement ensued, in which the English ships were disabled; and the French admiral proceeded to Simon’s Bay, where he landed his troops, who then marched to Cape Town, when their presence saved the Cape from conquest.

After the French Revolution, Great Britain, recognizing

the great importance of the Cape as dominating her passage to India, sent out a second well-equipped naval and military expedition, when, after various engagements, the castle and town were surrendered to the English forces, strengthened by reinforcements, in September 1795 ; and the reign of the Dutch East India Company in South Africa came to a close.

The Peace of Amiens restored the country to Holland, and in 1803 it was evacuated by the British. The Cape now came under the government of the Batavian Republic, until 1806, when, war being again declared in Europe, the expedition under General Sir David Baird took possession of Cape Town, and the country then virtually became a British colony, although its final cession by Holland only occurred after the Congress of Vienna in 1815.

In administering the country, the Governors, invested by the British Government with supreme power, showed a due and proper regard for the old Dutch laws and settlements, and many of the colonists were appointed by them to various offices in the civil service. In 1826, however, the effect of the labours of an imperial commission of inquiry into the condition of the country led to many changes, which tended mainly in the direction of Anglicizing the Colony. In 1827 the English language was ordered to be exclusively used in all official proceedings and business.

Soon afterwards the question of the emancipation of the slaves came up, and an Emancipation Act was the result, the terms of which were given effect to in 1834. Thereafter, in consequence of orders from home, the Colonial Government was ordered to reinstate the Kafir chiefs in the country between the Fish and the Great Kei Rivers, of

which they had been dispossessed early in 1834, after some hard fighting with the colonists, aided by a small body of British troops, in a war provoked by a raid made upon some settlers within the boundary of Cape Colony.

Many of the colonists, especially those of Dutch or French descent, already dissatisfied with British rule, deeply resenting these orders, as they had been compelled to make great sacrifices in the defence of the Colony, now determined to carry into effect a project of emigration to some other part of South Africa, where they would be able to govern themselves without interference. This project was not an entirely new idea, as for years past such a step had been contemplated.

The Colonial Government was at first inclined to stop this emigration, but their law officers advised them that there was no law to prevent persons leaving one country to better themselves in another; and the emigrants persevered in their march to the northwards across the Orange River, and in 1837, having been joined by Pieter Retief, a descendant of one of the old Huguenot families, who was speedily recognized as their leader, they marched towards Natal.

It does not come within the scope of the present work to detail the various events which ultimately led to Natal being declared a British colony in 1843; and hereafter, in 1854, the guaranteeing of independence to the emigrants settled in the Orange River territory. Having dealt with the initial events and causes which led to the foundation and after expansion of European influence in South Africa, its subsequent history must be sketched in broader lines.

In 1838 a party of the Dutch emigrants, under Mr. Hendrick Potgieter, leaving their compatriots in Natal,

crossed over the Vaal River, and established themselves where the town of Potchefstrom is situated. They hoped then to be free from all interference or control from without; but a proclamation issued by the Governor of Cape Colony reached them, stating that they were not released from their allegiance to the Crown. They then moved further northwards in small bands or communities without any cohesion, but continued to grow in numbers by accessions from the Cape and Natal; and in 1844 a "People's Council" (Volksraad) assembled, and adopted a simple form of government according to a code of regulations agreed to by all.

In 1849 Mr. Andries Pretorius joined them from Natal, and was at once appointed commandant-general; and in 1852 he brought about a reconciliation between the emigrants and the British Government and the Sand River Convention, by which their independent national status was recognized. In 1853 their two leaders died, and dissensions followed; hereafter, in 1856, efforts were successfully made to unite the country under a Central Government, the executive authority being vested in a president, the first chosen being Mr. M. W. Pretorius, a son of their early leader.

In the following years troubles and fights with the natives ensued. In 1870-72 rumours of the discovery of gold in the country were heard; also various political troubles arose, and the situation culminated in 1877, when the Republic was annexed and proclaimed a British territory.

Deputations to England protesting against the annexation followed, but with no avail. In 1880 the Boers were encouraged, by certain political speeches in England, to hope for the restoration of their independence; and they

were bitterly disappointed when it was afterwards announced that it was still intended to maintain the Queen's supremacy over the Transvaal. This discontent led to an appeal to arms, and the resulting disastrous battles of Laing's Nek, Ingogo Heights, and Majuba Hill, by which the Boers obtained complete self-government for the people of the Transvaal under their own Volksraad, subject to the suzerainty of the Queen and her successors, in terms of a convention ratified on the 25th of October 1881.

A modification of this convention, by which the suzerain rights were relinquished and the British Government withdrew from all responsibility for the internal affairs of the state was negotiated in 1884, thus creating the South African Republic. This convention also provided for an extension of the south-western boundary of the Republic, and a British protectorate was established over Montsoia, Mankorane, and the rest of the Bechuana tribe.

In 1885 the British protectorate was declared extended over Bechuanaland and the Kalihari, and the territory south of the Molopo River was created a Crown Colony, under the name of British Bechuanaland. Subsequent chapters of this book recount in detail the proclamation in 1888 of Matabeleland and Mashonaland as coming within the sphere of British influence, and the grant in 1889 of a Royal Charter to the British South Africa Company.

The travels and discoveries of Livingstone, Stanley, and others, the opening of the Suez Canal in 1869, all followed up by the Brussels Conference of 1876, were among the principal causes that led to the rediscovery and partition of South and Central Africa. The termination of the Franco-German War also caused Germany to take active

steps to follow up the action of her missionary traders in South-Western Africa, and, after much negotiation, the foundation of a vast German colony there.

This partition of Southern Africa was ratified, so to speak, as far as England is concerned, by Her Majesty's Order in Council of the 9th of May 1891 (*see* Appendix III.), authorizing the High Commissioner at the Cape, on Her Majesty's behalf, to exercise jurisdiction within all those central parts of South Africa under her protection, as bounded by British Bechuanaland, the German Protectorate, the rivers Chobe and Zambesi, the Portuguese possessions, and the South African Republic.

CHAPTER II

PORTUGUESE POSSESSIONS AND CLAIMS IN SOUTH AFRICA

Exploration of East Coast of Africa from Sofala to Cape Gardafui—
Portuguese anxious to divert its traffic from Red Sea to Cape
route—Portuguese make few attempts to develop internal trade—
Portugal negotiates with France and Germany as to territory in
Africa—Lo Bengula executes a treaty with England in 1888—
Anglo-Portuguese Convention of 1891.

TO Portuguese navigators, as has been recounted in the previous chapter, belongs the glory of having first doubled the Cape in 1485; and it was shown how Vasco da Gama, in his ever-memorable expedition of 1497, after again doubling the Cape, sailed along the eastern coast of Africa as far as Sofala, and thence direct across to India. Within the next five years the whole of the east coast of Africa, as far northwards as Cape Gardafui, had been explored, and brought under the nominal sovereignty of Portugal.

This seaboard had long been subject to the influence of commercial intercourse with such highly civilized people as the Egyptians, Phœnicians, Greeks, Arabs, Persians, and Indians. The Portuguese, however, who were very anxious to divert this trade to the Cape route instead of by the Red Sea, *i.e.* from the Mediterranean to the Atlantic, never made any considerable progress in that direction, and their

existing ports on that coast are but few, nor have they ever been the outlets of any considerable traffic. It is a matter of history that many seaports which they found large and flourishing were devastated by the Portuguese, who were really pirates rather than traders; and those towns that were not at once laid in ashes, gradually lost all their trade, and sank to the level of mere fishing villages, clinging round the ruins of their former grandeur.

At the present time, Mozambique, the capital of Portuguese East Africa, situated on an island close to the mainland, is still at some times dependent on the good will of neighbouring tribes for its supply of provisions, and this after some four hundred years' occupation. While giving all honour to the early Portuguese exploration of the East African coast-line, it is a remarkable fact that, since that heroic age of maritime discovery, Portugal has added but little to the world's knowledge of the interior of Africa, until recent years, when travellers such as Capello, Ivens, and Serpa Pinto have been roused by the splendid achievements of the many British pioneers of Central and South African discovery.

In fact, the Portuguese valued Africa chiefly as a half-way house to India and other parts of the East where they desired to settle, or had already established themselves; and although they made but few attempts to develop any trade with the interior of Africa, they kept other nations at bay, while arrogating to themselves supreme power over the greater portion of the entire continent of Africa. These claims were, however, never advanced in any serious manner until 1887, when the Portuguese Government published the results of the negotiations they had recently carried on with Germany and France, the objects of which

were the delimitation of their respective spheres of influence in Central Africa. Maps were then officially issued, on which the entire region lying between Angola and Mozambique, the whole basin of the Zambesi, Matabeleland, and the districts of Lake Nyassa up to the latitude of the Rovuma River, were shown as reserved to her enterprise.

England, through her Foreign Minister, Lord Salisbury, lost no time in entering a formal protest against any claims not founded on occupation, and also in stating that her Majesty's Government could not recognize Portuguese sovereignty in territories not occupied by her in sufficient strength to enable her to maintain order, protect foreigners, and control the natives.

Diplomatic correspondence ensued, but in the mean time action was in progress on the spot, which culminated on the 11th of February, 1888, when Lo Bengula executed a treaty with the Assistant-Commissioner in Bechuanaland, which secured to England predominant influence in Matabeleland.

This document, which may be considered as the initial stage of all the recent events of which this work gives an account, and practically secured the Zambesi as the northern limit of the extension of British South Africa, is so important that it is here reprinted :—

“The Chief Lo Bengula, Ruler of the tribe known as the Amandebele, together with the Mashuna and Makakalaka, tributaries of the same, hereby agrees to the following articles and conditions :—

“That peace and amity shall continue for ever between Her Britannic Majesty, her subjects, and the Amandebele people ; and the contracting Chief Lo Bengula engages to use his utmost endeavours to prevent any rupture of the same, to cause the strict observance of this Treaty, and so to carry out the spirit of the Treaty of Friendship which was entered into between his

late father, the Chief Umsiligazi, with the then Governor of the Cape of Good Hope, in the year of our Lord 1836.

"It is hereby further agreed by Lo Bengula, Chief in and over the Amandebele country, with its dependencies aforesaid, on behalf of himself and people, that he will refrain from entering into any correspondence or Treaty with any foreign State or Power to sell, alienate, or cede, or permit or countenance any sale, alienation, or cession of the whole or any part of the said Amandebele country under his Chieftainship, or upon any other subject, without the previous knowledge and sanction of Her Majesty's High Commissioner for South Africa.

"In faith of which I, Lo Bengula, on my part, have hereunto set my hand at Gubuluwayo, Amandebeleland, this 11th day of February, and of Her Majesty's reign the fifty-first.

"(Signed) LO BENGULA, his × mark.

"Witnesses :

"(Signed) W. GRAHAM.

G. B. VAN WYK.

"Before me,

"(Signed) J. S. MOFFAT, *Assistant-Commissioner*.

"February 11, 1888."

The negotiations between the British and Portuguese Governments relating to their respective spheres of action in South Africa were protracted, and at times the situation became grave. Happily for the peace of both countries, the Portuguese statesmen in Lisbon were throughout animated by a sincere desire to maintain the traditional good will which has ever characterized the relationship between the two countries, and the result of the negotiations was the signature at Lisbon, on the 11th of June, 1891, of an Anglo-Portuguese Convention (*see* Appendix IV.), which defined the dominion of Portugal in East Africa, threw open the free navigation of the Zambesi and Shiré to the ships of all nations, and secured many other important advantages and facilities for free intercourse of all kinds over the vast territory affected by the Convention.

CHAPTER III

MASHONALAND AND MATABELELAND

Climate—Plateau lands suited for growing European vegetables—Country bordering Pioneer Road uninviting—Mashonaland and Matabeleland valleys afford good pasture in dry season—Recent history—Primitive races—The Zimbabwe ruins—Phallic worship—Matabele organization—Lo Bengula—Court etiquette—Witchcraft—Matabele Queens—Raids—Buluwayo—Gold in Matabeleland—Physical description of Matabeleland.

THE elevated plateau known as Mashonaland, recently opened up to colonization by the British South Africa Company, has an area of about 150,000 square miles, between the Limpopo and Sabi on the south, the Zambesi on the north, and the Portuguese territories on the east, and has a general elevation of from 4000 to 4500 feet above sea-level. The north-western section is inhabited by the Matabele, the rest by the tribes known under the general titles of Mashona and Makalaka. West of Matabeleland, again, is the country stretching from the Limpopo to the Zambesi, ruled over by Khama, the Chief of the Bamangwato.

The greater portion of these table-lands has a climate similar to that of the Transvaal high *veldt*—cool, clear, and invigorating; is well watered by a network of running streams, the sources from which these spring being in the

highest portions of the downs, enabling irrigation to be effectively carried out. From September till March the heat is tempered by the south-eastern breeze from the Indian Ocean, which aids in producing the temperate climate due mainly to the elevation. The temperature ranges from 34° to 93° . The winter months are healthy and bracing, being coldest (and tryingly so) in June and July—midwinter in South Africa. The highest portions of the country are open, but there are bits of forest everywhere,—a great contrast to the timberless tracts of the Transvaal, Orange Free State, and Cape Colony. The rainfall is plentiful; the country, as already stated, well watered, and, for South Africa, well timbered.

In the neighbouring country, Matabeleland, Englishmen have lived for the past twenty years, enjoying the best of health. The climate very closely resembles that of Mashonaland. Both missionaries and traders have reared families there. It is now clearly established that European women and children can thrive in the whole of the higher portions of the table-land in South-Eastern Africa south of the Zambesi. From the middle to the end of the rainy season, which lasts from November till March, fever is prevalent in the lower parts of the country, and exposure to cold or wet during that season is to be avoided. It must be borne in mind that, during the early stages of the colonization of any new territory in South Africa, the provision of the most ordinary conditions of comfort is not possible, while exposure is inevitable; but with improvement in those conditions, gradually taking place, will come improved health. Speaking generally, I believe the health of settlers will be as good in our new colony as in nearly every other part of South Africa.

The greater portion of this high plateau will produce the fruits and vegetables of Northern Europe. It has been proved that wheat, oats, barley, and vegetables such as potatoes, onions, cauliflowers, cabbages, carrots, etc., can be grown successfully. The commission appointed by the Afrikander Bund to report on the agricultural prospects of Mashonaland expressed a high opinion of the value of the country in the portion situated between Fort Charter and Salisbury, and in the latter neighbourhood they found the land most suitable for agriculture. The country between Salisbury and Manika possesses large areas of valuable grazing-ground. Of the country lying between Forts Charter and Victoria, along the Pioneer road, they entertained a very poor opinion. It certainly is a most uninviting and inhospitable tract of country, and has doubtless largely influenced the adverse opinions expressed in some quarters by visitors who have seen nothing of Mashonaland except from the main road. People who have merely been to Salisbury, or thence to Manika, along the high-road, can have little conception of the vast extent of the high table-land and its agricultural capabilities. Large sections of Mashonaland, away from these highways, embrace fine tracts of country.

A feature of Mashonaland deserving special attention is that when the long summer grass is burnt off—usually in June to August—there springs up a short sweet herbage, on which cattle and horses thrive. During the months of September and October, therefore, when the Transvaal and Bechuanaland are a scorched and arid waste, and the cattle poor and miserable, the Mashonaland and Matabeleland valleys are everywhere green, streams in full force, and the cattle in good condition. No one who has not been in

South Africa, and at the end of the dry season, can realize the importance of this fact.

The modern history of Mashonaland and Matabeleland dates from the reign of Umziligazi, the father of Lo Bengula, the present King of the Matabele, who, pressed by the Boers moving north, about the year 1840, overran Mashonaland and Matabeleland, conquering all the tribes in the highlands, ultimately settling down and establishing the Matabele power in that section of the plateau now known as Matabeleland. Umziligazi attempted to carry out an extensive expedition north of the Zambesi, but unsuccessfully. On his return he found that his eldest son, Kuruman, had been installed as king, the tribe believing Umziligazi dead. Kuruman was exiled, and, it is believed, assassinated. In 1868 Umziligazi died, and the heir, Lo Bengula, refused to reign; but in 1870 he yielded to entreaty, and was crowned king.

A graphic description of the recent history of Mashonaland is given by Mr. Selous ("Travel and Adventure in South-East Africa"), which, in his opinion—in which I fully concur,—

"will show that it is not to be wondered at that the native races inhabiting that country should have abandoned some of their arts and industries, and become the timid and broken-spirited race which they now are.

"As far as we can learn, the country we now call Mashonaland was in the early part of the present century ruled over by the ancestors of the petty chiefs Makoni, Mangwendi, Motoko, Sosi, Umtassa, etc., who were the rulers of large and prosperous tribes living in huts, the foundations of which, where they still exist, show them to have been at least three times the size of the miserable tenements which satisfy their degenerate descendants, and whose towns were, for the most part, surrounded by well-built and loop-holed stone walls, many of which still remain in

perfect preservation to-day, especially in the country of Makoni, the chief of the Ma-ongwi. Hundreds of thousands of acres that now lie fallow must then have been under cultivation, as is proved by the traces of rice and maize fields which can still be discerned in almost every valley ; whilst the sites of ancient villages, long ago crumbled to decay, and now only marked by a few deep pits, from which the natives obtained the clay used by them in plastering their huts, are very numerous all over the open downs, where no stones were procurable with which to build walls round the towns. On almost every hill traces of the stone walls will be found which once encircled and protected ancient villages. At that time the inhabitants of this part of Africa must have been rich and prosperous, possessing large flocks of sheep and goats and numerous herds of a small but beautiful breed of cattle.

“ This state of things was not, however, destined to continue ; for some twelve or fifteen years after the Cape of Good Hope became a British colony, in 1806, some of the outlying Zulu clans broke away from the harsh and cruel rule of Chaka, and commenced their migrations northwards ; and wherever these ferocious warriors went their track was marked by the flight of the vultures which feasted upon the corpses of the men, women, and children they had slain, and the flames of the villages they had set fire to. Manikos, the grandfather of Gungunyan, the present chief of the Abagaza, was the leader of one of these bands ; whilst the ancestor of Pezen, the principal chief of the Angoni, who are now settled to the west of Lake Nyassa, led another horde. These two Zulu chiefs, after devastating a great portion of what is now called Mashonaland, both settled near the head waters of the Sabi, where they soon came into collision with one another. A great battle was fought, lasting—so Lo Bengula told me he had heard from old men of the Abagaza—for three days, at the end of which time the Angoni were defeated, and driven from their settlements. They retreated northwards, devastating the whole country through which they passed, and, crossing the Zambesi to the east of Tumbo, made their way on to the high plateau which lies to the west of Lake Nyassa, where they are living at the present day, a scourge to all the surrounding tribes.

“After the battle with the Angoni, the Abagaza retreated southwards, and settled on an elevated and fertile tract of country to the east of the Central Sabi, and from that date, until a few years ago, they never ceased to devastate the southern and eastern portions of Mashonaland, their principal raiding-grounds being in the countries of Motoko, Mangwendi, Makoni, Sosi, and Makwirimba. In spite, however, of the devastations committed by the Angoni and the Abagaza, large portions of Northern and Western Mashonaland remained untroubled by the Zulu raids until about 1840. About this time the Amandibili, under their warlike chief, Umziligazi, being unable to hold their own against the Dutch Boers, who were then commencing to settle in the Transvaal, crossed the Limpopo, and, travelling northwards, destroying as they went, finally halted, and built permanent kraals in the country now known as Matabeleland; and soon well-disciplined bands of desperate savages, men born and bred amidst the ceaseless slaughter of Chaka’s never-ending wars, overran every portion of Mashonaland which had up till then escaped the blood-stained assegais of the Angoni and the Abagaza.

“These oft-recurring raids upon the unwarlike inhabitants of Mashonaland—raids carried out with all the ruthless ferocity of savage warfare—almost completely depopulated large tracts of country, and, as may be easily understood, at once put an end to the gold-mining industry, which, there is no doubt, was still being carried on in the early part of this century, and also put a stop to the wall-building, as the Mashonas found out that the walls with which they had been accustomed to encircle their towns, and which were probably very often an effective means of defence against other tribes of their own race, were of little avail against the braver and better-organized Zulus. Thus the high plateau of Mashonaland, which at no very distant date must have supported a large native population, once more became an almost uninhabited wilderness, as the remnants of the aboriginal tribes who escaped destruction at the hands of the Zulu invaders retreated into the broken country which encircles the plateau to the south and east. Had it not been for the constant destruction of the native races that has been going on in Mashonaland during the last seventy or eighty years, there

would be no room for European immigration to-day. As it is, not only has the occupation of the country by the British South Africa Company been effected without wronging the native races, but it has very likely saved some of them from absolute destruction at the hands of the Matabele."

Besides the two primitive races of South Africa found occupying the territories adjoining the Cape of Good Hope—the Hottentot and Bushmen—were the dark-skinned negroids of the Bantu stock, speaking, according to Noble, "a euphonious polysyllabic, prefix pronominal language; living under hereditary chiefs; pastoral and agricultural in their pursuits; dwellers in villages, and workers in metals. They are now known as the tribal groups, classed as Kafirs, Zulus, Makalakas, Bechuanas, and Damaras, all having ancient traditions of invasions, wars, and forays during their migrations southward and eastward from their long-forgotten home in the north and east."

The Hottentots were a nomadic people, comparatively rich, with abundant flocks and herds. The Bushmen were of a more diminutive stature, of spare emaciated figure, dwelling in small communities in the recesses of the mountains or in the desert, living entirely by hunting and trapping. With their bow and arrow—this latter steeped in poison—they were the dread of the Hottentot. These two races are said by competent authorities to have been the original inhabitants of a great portion of the African continent, and to have sprung from one source.

The curious drawings of the Bushmen have attracted much attention, and are found at many points between the Cape and the Zambesi. They consist of representations of a mythological character connected with their customs and superstitions, animals, and the human figure, coloured in

clay and ochre. In Bechuanaland and Mashonaland I have seen examples of these drawings.

The term "Kafir," signifying "infidel," was applied by the Mohammedan Arabs to *all the dark races of Africa*, and adopted by the first Europeans coming into contact with the tribes on the Eastern border of the Cape Colony.

"The Kafirs," to quote Noble ("Official Handbook of the Cape and South Africa"), "are physically superior to the Hottentot race. They are generally fine, able-bodied men, reserved and self-possessed in manner, but courteous and polite, and sensible of kindness and consideration. Their form of government was a well-organized although simple one. They had a regular gradation of authority from the head of the family, who was responsible for its conduct, or the head of the kraal or village, who was responsible for the collective families therein, up to the chief, who, with his councillors, adjudicated in all matters relating to the affairs of individuals or of the tribe. They had a system of law which took cognisance of crimes and offences, enforced civil rights and obligations, provided for the validity of polygamic marriages, and secured succession to property according to well-defined rules. Superstition entered into all the affairs of their life, and formed part of their laws, customs, and religion. They believed in benevolent and evil spirits producing prosperity or adversity in health or sickness, and witchcraft was recognized as one of the evil arts practised with the view of causing death or injury to property. The alleged offender, charged with being *umtakati* (wizard or witch), was stripped of his possessions, and, after being subjected to various kinds of torture, was frequently put to death. The procedure supplied a convenient method of getting rid of any obnoxious persons, or one whose property was coveted."

The various tribes now known as Mashonas, living principally in the hills to the north-east, east and south-east of the high open plateau, the remnant that has escaped the process of gradual extinction at the hands of

the Matabele, do not call themselves Mashonas, and no one, not even Mr. Selous, is able to suggest how this name arose. It is useful, however, as a generic term designating the various aboriginal tribes speaking dialects of one language. Each community has its own tribal name, such as Bambiri, Mabotcha, Barotse, etc. The tatoo marks differ in each clan. According to Mr. Selous, the distinguishing mark of the Barotse living on the Upper Sabi is a broad open nick filed out between the two front teeth of the upper jaw, the tribal mark of the Barotse now existing on the Upper Zambesi. In Mr. Selous' opinion, it is not at all impossible, or indeed improbable, that the Zambesi Barotse were originally an offshoot from the powerful Barotse nation that once occupied a large tract of country to the west of the Sabi River in Southern Mashonaland, until in the latter days of Umziligazi they were broken up by a Matabele *impi*, and only a small number left who settled in the valleys concealed among the hills east of the Sabi. They seem always to have been a mild and gentle people, and a long course of savage oppression at the hands of the Matabele left them with all spirit crushed out of them, such as we found them when we entered Mashonaland in 1890.

Concerning the native races now found scattered over a large extent of Mashonaland and the ruined and ancient gold workings, Mr. Selous has written as follows:—

“The native races . . . seem to be much the same as they were in the time of Dos Santos three centuries ago. They belong to the Bantu family, which is spread over the whole of South-Eastern and South-Central Africa ; but what the Bantus are ethnologically, who can say? They are certainly not a pure race, though the negro blood predominates in them. The in-

fusion of foreign blood which undoubtedly runs in their veins must have come from a lighter-skinned people, I fancy, for I have noticed that, in all the tribes of Kafirs amongst whom I have travelled, good features, thin lips, and well-shaped heads are almost invariably correlated with a light-coloured skin. Now I will here hazard a theory, which may or may not have any foundation in fact. I will first, however, assume that Mr. Bent is correct in the supposition that the original builders of Zimbabwe came from Southern Arabia. Dr. Schlichter, in a criticism upon Mr. Bent's lately published book, 'The Ruined Cities of Mashonaland,' proves conclusively that during the six centuries which elapsed between the founding of the Christian religion and the birth of Mohammed, there was no intercourse between the natives of Southern Arabia and South-Eastern Africa, so that we must put back to a very remote period the first incursion of the worshippers of Baal into the country we now call Mashonaland. That the builders of Zimbabwe were a very rude people, possessing no written characters, and doing all their building by eye and without measurement, was the impression left upon my mind after two short visits to the ruins. Mr. Swan, however, who assisted Mr. Bent in his researches and excavations, is of opinion, I believe, that the builders of the temple of Zimbabwe were a highly civilized race. It is to be hoped that further researches will throw new light upon this most interesting subject. In the mean time I will theorize.

"Let us suppose, then, that two or perhaps three thousand years ago a commercial people penetrated from Southern Arabia to Mashonaland. They were acquainted with the requirements of the civilized nations of Asia at that period, and understood the value of gold. This metal they discovered amongst the hills and in the streams of Mashonaland. In time these Arabian merchants gained a footing in the land, and taught the black aborigines to mine for them. Their principal station was at Zimbabwe, where they built, with the forced labour of the aborigines, a temple for the worship of Baal, and a strongly built and well-situated fortress. But I take it that, like the Arabs in Central Africa at the present day, these ancient Arabians brought few or no women with them, but took a very handsome allowance of wives from amongst the aboriginal

blacks. For a long period intercourse was kept up with Arabia, and during this period the gold-seekers spread over the whole of South-Eastern Africa, from the Zambesi to the Limpopo, everywhere mixing with the people, and teaching them their own rude arts of wall-building and gold-mining. In course of time we will suppose that events happened in Arabia which put an end to all intercourse with the distant colony in Mashonaland, and as time went on, as the alien race were still in small numbers compared with the aboriginal blacks, and as they had none of their own women with them, they gradually became completely fused, and nationally lost amongst the aborigines. The mixed race called the Bantu had been formed, which spread in course of time northwards as far as the Congo, and southwards as far as the Cape Colony; or the migrations may first have been northwards, and then again southwards down the east coast, with an admixture of other tribes, such as the Zends, spoken of by El Massoudi. At any rate, I am absolutely convinced that the blood of the ancient builders of Zimbabwe still runs (in a very diluted form, if you like) in the veins of the Bantu races, and more especially so amongst the remnants of the tribes still living in Mashonaland, and the Barotsi of the Upper Zambesi, who are, there is little doubt, a branch of the Barotsi tribe who were destroyed by the Matabele in Mashonaland, though the separation took place long prior to this event.

“ I make this suggestion after much thought, a close study of the relics unearthed at Zimbabwe, and a knowledge of the natives of South-Eastern Africa gained during many years of travel. Between the builders of Zimbabwe and the people living in Mashonaland at the present day, it appears to me that there is no impassable gulf dividing a highly civilized race from an utterly savage one, as some people would have us believe. ”

“ Many things tend to prove that the ancient builders of Zimbabwe were a rude people. They had a religion, and possessed sufficient energy and concentration of purpose to carry to an end the immense work of building the temple of Zimbabwe. But the work itself, though very wonderful, appears to me to be rude and unsymmetrical. Nowhere is the wall absolutely plumb, and on the top it varies in different parts considerably in breadth. The fact that no written characters have been found on any of

the flat granite or soapstone beams embedded in the walls, or the large flat stones standing upright like tombstones in the floor of the Zimbabwe, seems to me to prove that the people who built the temple were unacquainted with writing of any kind. The only carvings on the sides of the soapstone beams are lozenge-shaped and herring-bone patterns (badly carved, not a single line being quite straight), agreeing exactly in some cases with the ornamentation on the outside of the temple; and, more curious still, not alone with the patterns carved on the wooden knife-sheaths, and scored on the pottery of the natives all over Mashonaland at the present day, but also with the patterns used in ornamenting the household utensils of all kinds in the Barotsi Valley hundreds of miles away.

“The most curious relics that have been found at Zimbabwe are, undoubtedly, the birds carved sitting on the tops of the soapstone beams. These bear no resemblance to anything now seen amongst the Bantu people, and were doubtless connected with the ancient worship. Not so, however, the carvings on the soapstone bowls. These are very rude—so much so that the animals which have been taken by Mr. Bent to represent hippopotami I take to be meant for baboons, as they have long tails. But the curious thing about these bas-reliefs is the close resemblance they bear to the wooden carvings of animals to be seen amongst the Bantu people at the present day. The genius of the ancient artists still lives amongst them.

“Mr. Bent speaks of the ruined cities of Mashonaland. What trace of them is there? I would ask. I have seen the temple of Zimbabwe, and some smaller ones, the fortress on the hill near the large temple, and further, many hundreds or thousands of stone walls in various parts of South-Eastern Africa, but never a trace of a city built of stone. There is strong presumptive evidence that the structures in which the people lived, near the great temple, were huts plastered with mud. For this reason: at the foot of the hill on which stands the fortress are two immense holes dug in the ground. I have heard the theory advanced that these holes were used as reservoirs for water; but I take them to be merely the holes excavated by the people living on the hill to obtain clay for their pottery, and with which to daub their huts. The native population was large, and

endured for a long period of time, therefore the excavations are larger than those found at the side of any Bantu village at the present day ; but wherever there is a village, or the site of a deserted village, a similar hole, larger or smaller in proportion to the size of the town and the length of its duration, will always be found.

“As to the relations of the ancient builders of the temple of Zimbabwe to the present inhabitants of the country, on my theory the blood of the ancient worshippers of Baal still runs in their veins, very much diluted, no doubt, but still in sufficient strength to occasionally produce amongst them men with light-brown skins and high features, and sometimes of great intellectual power. After a certain lapse of time, when the higher race had become entirely fused and practically lost amongst the lower and more numerous aboriginal people, the worship of Baal died out, and was superseded by the old religion of ancestor-worship which still prevails ; but it appears to me that the wall-building and gold-mining, originally learnt from the ancient Arabians, were carried on continuously from their first inception up to the middle of the present century. It is the Zulu migrations northwards through Mashonaland which have taken place during the present century—invasions that have absolutely depopulated large areas of country,—that finally obliged the Mashonas to cease working in the shafts which their ancestors had, centuries before, commenced to sink on the quartz reef which abound in the country. As the mining had been carried on for a long period of time, naturally an enormous amount of work has been done in the aggregate, some of the shafts recently discovered in Mashonaland being as much as one hundred and twenty feet in depth.

“Many people seem to imagine that a highly civilized race once existed in Mashonaland, who built temples and cities, and did an immense amount of work in the way of gold-mining, and were finally destroyed by the ancestors of the present inhabitants of the country. The destruction of this people put an end, it is said, to the gold industry until the advent of the Portuguese, by whom it was again revived. It is this idea which I wish to combat. When the Portuguese arrived in South-Eastern Africa, at the close of the fifteenth century, they

found Arab settlements on the coast, and first learned from the Arabs of the gold-mines in the interior of the country. These gold-mines were being worked by the natives of the country, who used the gold as a medium of exchange to buy the goods brought to them by the Arabs, and for centuries before this time their ancestors had in all probability made use of gold, whose value had been first taught them by the ancient builders of the temple of Zimbabwe to trade with the commercial peoples of the East who, from time to time, penetrated to Mashonaland. Thus, when the Arabs were driven from South-Eastern Africa by the Portuguese, the mining did not cease, as the native miners simply sold their gold to the new-comers, whom they probably found even more anxious to obtain the precious metal than the Arab merchants had been.

“After this period Portuguese records abundantly prove that the gold-mining went on without interruption till early in the present century, and the old men amongst the Matabele, who took part in the first raids made amongst the Mashonas by Umzebgazi’s warriors, state positively that they found the Amahole working for gold in the ‘Amagute,’ *i.e.* in the deep holes ‘between the Zweswi and Umfuli rivers.’”

With regard to his interesting theory of the fusion of races, Mr. Selous says—

“In the foregoing pages I have endeavoured to show that there is no evidence that any high form of ancient civilization ever existed in South-Eastern Africa at all, whilst many facts go to prove that the two industries, or arts, which are supposed by many to separate the ancient inhabitants of the country from the Bantu people living there at the present day—namely, gold-mining and wall-building—have only been abandoned very recently. The evidences of Phallic-worship which have been discovered at the temple of Zimbabwe give one a fair right to suppose that the original builders of this structure came from a country where that form of worship is known to have been practised in very ancient times; but I do not believe that this foreign race, in its pure state, spread over the whole country between the Zambesi and the Limpopo, and did all the

gold-mining and wall-building that has been done in that vast territory, and was then utterly destroyed and supplanted by more barbarous people. The evidence available seems to me to be far stronger in favour of the theory which I have advanced, of the gradual fusion of a numerically small number of a race of traders and merchants, who were themselves in a low state of civilization, with aboriginal inhabitants of the country. Thus alone can I account for many things—the long continuance and the gradual deterioration noticeable in the wall buildings in Mashonaland; the ingrained inherited impulse which causes the Barotsi of the Upper Zambesi, who are an offshoot of the Barotsi of Mashonaland, to still carve the same chevron patterns on their pottery, on their knife-sheaths, and on their wooden pots and bowls, and the ancient worshippers of Baal represented in stonework round the temple of Zimbabwi, and carved in soapstone hundreds or thousands of years ago. Add to this, that the wooden bowls themselves still retain the same form as the ancient ones carved in soapstone, that the wooden carvings of animals made at the present day and the rude bas-reliefs on the soapstone bowls are the products of the same school of art, and the fact that the Bantu races, inhabiting Mashonaland and adjoining countries, to-day are subject to atavism or reversion to a type of man which is Asiatic or Semitic rather than negroid, and it seems to me that only one theory is possible, which is, that the ancient builders of Zimbabwi were not first destroyed and then supplanted by an inferior race, but that they became gradually fused with a lower race, which still bears traces of its admixture with more intelligent people.”

For further information regarding the important subject of the ruins of Mashonaland, the investigation of which will aid in throwing light on the past history of Mashonaland and its ancient gold-mining, I would refer the reader to the interesting works of Mr. Theodore Bent and Dr. Schlichter.

The Matabele nation, which is more a military organization than a tribe, though Zulu in origin, language, cus-

toms, and methods of warfare, has greatly degenerated from the original Zulu stock by the incorporation of the inferior tribes they have raided and conquered from time to time. They live under a military despotism presided over by the King, who is absolute master of everything. There are no industries, the tribesmen living mainly by the assegai and the cattle captured on raids. On these expeditions, or forays, the men and old women are massacred, the children and young women being carried away, and marked, as Matabele, by a hole made with an assegai in the lobe of the ear. The lads grow up Matabele, and in time become soldiers, the girls being taken as wives by their captors. The result has been a race, originally Zulu, intermixed with Bechuanas, Mashonas, Makalakas, etc., held together only by the military bondage and organization. Thus degenerated, they are living largely upon the prestige and power of their progenitors, the famous Umziligazi (Lo Bengula's father) and his warrior-followers. The number of fighting men is estimated at fifteen to twenty thousand. The whole fabric may be easily shaken or broken.*

The King is not only master of everything and every one throughout his territories, but a terror to all his neighbours. Like other absolute monarchs, his power is maintained by the military, and only with their approval, and he has to be very cautious, as stated elsewhere, how he deals with them. Present and past history, both in the East and West, furnish numerous parallels to the case of the Matabele King, such as many of the Amirs of Afghanistan and the Roman Emperors. There are many analogies between the rulers of Afghanistan and Lo Bengula, though

* Recent events have fully confirmed this view.

it must be acknowledged that the African potentate is an utterly uncivilized edition of the Afghan monarch. They both rule countries which may be likened to cages of tigers. The Amir has to control and conciliate his various chiefs, at the head of fighting clans, for whose energies there is at present no other outlet than war. Lo Bengula, as elsewhere shown, has to repress the war-cravings of his "matjaka." The Amir has to reckon with the fanatical Mullah or Ghazi; Lo Bengula with his wizards and medicine-men. The turn which events have taken is unfortunate for Lo Bengula, who was beginning to appreciate the advantages of a settled life; but the "matjaka" have got the upper hand and forced upon him a war which has proved disastrous for him. Men in his position have not infrequently to pay heavy penalties for their exalted rank.

Lo Bengula, literally "The Defender," and the bearer of many grandiloquent titles, such as "The Great Elephant," "The Eater of Men," "The Stabber of the Sun," is sixty years of age, suffers from gout, and is enormously fat and unwieldy in person, which tends greatly to diminish his otherwise kingly appearance. He is close upon six feet, weighs nearly twenty stone, and rarely takes physical exercise, although he has been very active and very powerful. He is a man of extraordinary character and ability, with great power of work. The descriptions of Lo Bengula's personal appearance range between that of a most truculent and bloodthirsty savage, with a "deadly cruel" look in the eyes, and a pleasant, mild-mannered old gentleman, with a gentle, winning, childlike smile. It is probably wise to adopt neither of these extreme portraits. There seems no doubt that at times he has a singularly

sweet smile, softening the usual character of his face, and with him, as with despotic monarchs similarly gifted, these occasions not infrequently bode somebody no particular good. His natural disposition is said by those who know him well to be not cruel; but the exercise of unrestrained despotic power, surrounded by intrigues, has led to indifference to life, whenever it seemed to him a matter of policy or, as not unseldom, self-preservation. Relations and friends at the Matabele Court alike have been removed when found to be "inconvenient." There is no doubt as to his great intelligence; he goes to the bottom of a question, never being diverted from it. His memory is great. He hears reports from all quarters, decides difficult questions of law, judges criminals, and settles details of his enormous cattle-business. A favourite seat is the waggon-box; at other time a veritable Bath-chair, given to him by some English admirer. In his cattle kraal, his body wrapped in a coloured blanket, his feet swathed in dirty flannel-bandages, in the midst of dirt and discomfort, and surrounded by skulls of slaughtered bullocks and mangy pariah dogs, the King was frequently to be seen.

The fact that Lo Bengula succeeded in restraining the war-party so long speaks volumes as to his force of character, tact, and diplomacy. As illustrating his capacity for business, I may here mention that when I was serving in Mashonaland he sent an agent, Mr. Dawson, an English trader at Buluwayo, to investigate some of the gold-fields, and to secure for his Majesty certain interests therein—an arrangement which was concluded with satisfaction to himself and to the Company, on whose behalf I acted in the transaction. This fact is worthy of note, as an evidence

of the King's belief in the gold-wealth of the country and of the British South Africa Company's *bona fides*.

The manner in which the Matabele approach the King is very peculiar, and is emblematical of the absolute power over the lives of the subjects exercised by the Chief. The King's titles are shouted out when any visitor passes the gate of the Royal kraal. When about twenty yards from the King, the subject sinks his left shoulder, bends his knee, and crouches lower and lower until, at a point some half-dozen yards from the Royal presence, he squats down and recommences to sing with vigour and earnestness the praises of "The Stabber of the Sun." It may be imagined that the suppliant infuses considerable feeling into this chant, as very much, indeed not impossibly even life itself, might depend upon its effect upon his Majesty.

Witchcraft forms a very important factor in the Matabele economy, and, as elsewhere indicated, has exercised a powerful influence over Lo Bengula. He was much addicted to the sacred duties of "medicine" or "mystery" of various kinds, which he practised in the more private of his kraals — the goat or "buck" kraal — daubed with rude paint. Witchcraft is made a convenient lever for getting rid of people who may be in the way, and Lo Bengula has on various occasions availed himself of this hideous superstition. Evidence is not required to justify, or permitted to disprove, any accusation. Lo Bengula's own sister Nini, who for years was a most influential personage in Matabeleland, and whose prestige was largely maintained by her use of the powerful weapon of bringing charges of witchcraft against persons whom she disliked, was herself suddenly despatched on a similar accusation. As with nomadic pastoral races generally, "rain-making" forms an

important function of the King as Chief Magician, and in this respect Lo Bengula is credited by his people with being a proficient. His reputed skill in rain-making gives him an additional hold upon the loyalty of his people, whose very existence depends to a large extent upon the provision of suitable pasturage for their cattle.

A few words may be devoted to the Matabele queens; of whom there are over eighty, a number that is being yearly added to, notwithstanding Lo Bengula's advanced age.

The chief queen, Loskay, is typical of the others. Her massive form on the occasion of the "War Dance" in 1890 was partly clothed in a coloured cotton sheet, while from her waist hung a black goat-skin kilt. The head was encircled with a coil of pink beads, the neck with tin, brass, and iron chains, probably taken in some of the many raids on the Mashonas, who unlike the Matabele have some skill in working in these metals; on her ankles and arms were more beads. When in State dress during the "War Dance" the queens present a picture of bright and effective colouring.

On the occasion of the "Queens' Dance," the black fur kilt was replaced by a heavy, beautifully worked, and parti-coloured bead apron; massive coils of beads encircled arms, legs, throat, and head; folds of gaudy cotton clothed the loins, while a bright orange handkerchief covered the shoulders, and dozens of blue jay's feathers were fixed singly into the hair. Each queen carries on the top of the head a small circular button of plaited grass, coloured bright red, and kept in place by weaving the hair into it. The dance was led by the chief queen, followed in single file by about twenty others, hopping slowly, with a highly grotesque step, resembling so many brilliant butterflies

fluttering and sparkling in the sunlight. Thus they danced for hours, waving long wands, in front of the Matabele army, drawn up in an immense half-moon (the old Zulu formation). These royal ladies are the beer-makers, and, during the War Dance especially, enormous quantities are consumed. Their sedentary lives, and the large amount of beer consumed by them, account for their corpulence.

The ruthless character of Matabele raids upon the Mashonas—by means of which alone the military organization of the Matabele could be maintained—is vividly impressed upon any one who has travelled over any extent of Mashonaland. In passing through large areas of that country I have again and again seen the evident traces of what must once have been a well-populated, perhaps densely inhabited, and cultivated country. Bishop Knight-Bruce, the missionary Bishop of Mashonaland, Sir Sidney Shippard, Administrator of Bechuanaland, and Mr. Selous are witnesses of established character as regards power of observation and reliability.

From the former, who in 1888 travelled in Matabeleland, I quote :—

“ Every spring his [the Matabele Chief's] regiments of fighting men (*impis* they are called) were marched in to kill and sack, bringing back with them girls, boys, and cattle. The Matabele had all to gain and nothing to lose by the process,—it provided their food without the drawback of labour ; it ‘ blooded ’ the young regiments ; it gave future recruits to the army. The poor Mashona were incapable of offering any resistance, and their disintegration into separate tribes, with no paramount Chief, left them helpless before the disciplined power of the Matabele, with their thousands of fighting men in organized regiments.”

Again—

“ These *impis* do not know, till they have gone some distance,

whom they are to attack. A man who had returned from a late raid described how they had surrounded the helpless people dragged them one by one out of the crowd, and given them one fatal stab with the assegai, till the dead bodies lay in heaps. Sometimes the poor victims were tied up in dry grass and then set on fire. The wives of the late Matabele Chief say of him with pride, 'He *was* a king ; he knew *how* to kill.'

Also—

"After passing the border into Mashonaland, for more than a week 'no man, woman, or child was met,'—not a Mashona was to be seen ; the former population had been killed off or driven away."

In another passage it is related that

"the track of the *impi* was constantly crossed, and presently the town was passed that had just been destroyed. The Chief and all the men had been killed, as well as the older women who could not walk ; the boys, the younger women, and the cattle, had been taken back to Matabeleland."

Sir Sidney Shippard, in a despatch on the condition of Matabeleland while on a mission to Lo Bengula in 1888, wrote :—

"No less than thirteen *impis* of Matabele have been sent on forays this year, and the desolation among the Mashona and Banyai villages, south of the Zambesi, and among the tribes for some distance on the north of that river, has, I am assured, been appalling. Bishop Knight-Bruce, of Bloemfontein, whom I have been so fortunate as to meet here on his way down, and who has been four days' journey north of the Zambesi, and as far as Umzila's boundary on the east, gives a terrible picture of the results of a Matabele raid. He describes the ruins of a Mashonaland village destroyed this year, the burnt huts, and the little patches of garden ground fenced in and carefully cultivated by the industrious Mashona, none of whom have

lived to reap the fruits of their labour. Every man, woman, and infant in these villages had been killed by the spear or 'stabbing assegai' of the Matabele matjaka, except the old women, who are used as carriers as long as they are wanted, and then tied to trees, round which dry grass is heaped up and then set on fire, such holocausts of old Mashona women being regarded as a capital joke by the Matabele matjaka. Of the children and girls who are driven here as slaves, those who survive the journey are afterwards fairly well treated. Lo Bengula allows the slave boys nothing but beef to eat, however great their craving for farinaceous food; the result being that all the weaker boys soon die of dysentery, while the survivors become very strong, and consequently fit to be incorporated, in due time, into a regiment of matjaka of the requisite ferocity. I see great numbers of these slave-boys here."

An excellent and vivid account of a typical Matabele raid will be found in Mr. Selous' book, where he narrates the tragic death of the wizard of Situngweesa; and he has portrayed the 'effects of such raids upon the former prosperity of the native tribes throughout Mashonaland as follows:—

"Some fifty years ago this fine country must have been thickly inhabited, as almost every valley has, at one time or another, been under cultivation. The sites of villages are also very numerous, though now only marked by a few deep pits from which the natives obtained the clay used by them for plastering their huts and making their cooking-pots, and also the presence usually of a cluster of huge acacia trees, which grow to a far greater size on the sites of old villages than anywhere else. On the summit of every hill may be found the walls, in more or less perfect preservation, of what, I think, must have been cattle kraals. These walls are very neatly built of squared stones, nicely fitted together, but uncemented with any kind of mortar. The peaceful people inhabiting this part of Africa must then have been in the zenith of their prosperity. Herds of their small but beautiful cattle lowed in every valley, and their rich

and fertile country doubtless afforded them an abundance of vegetable food. About 1840, however, the Matabili Zulus, under their warlike chief Umziligazi, settled in the country which they now inhabit, and very soon bands of these ferocious and blood-thirsty savages overran the peaceful vales of the Mashuna country in every direction. The poor Mashunas, unskilled in war, and living, moreover, in small communities scattered all over the country, without any central government, fell an easy prey before the fierce invaders, and very soon every stream in their country ran red with their blood, whilst vultures and hyænas feasted undisturbed amidst the ruins of their devastated homes. Their cattle, sheep, and goats, were driven off by their conquerors, and their children, when old enough to walk, and not above ten or twelve years of age, were taken for slaves; the little children too young to walk were of course killed, together with their mothers. In a very few years there were no more Mashunas left in the open country, the remnant that had escaped massacre having fled into the mountainous districts to the south and east of their former dwellings, where they still live. Thus, in a short time an immense extent of fertile country, that had, perhaps for ages past, supported a large and thriving community, was again given back to nature; and so it remains to the present day—an utterly uninhabited country, roamed over at will by herds of elands and other antelopes.”

Buluwayo, the capital of Matabeleland, situated about 120 miles from Tati, stands upon a ridge on the northern bank of the Buluwayo river, in a commanding position, overlooking the entire surrounding country. The enclosure of the British South Africa Company is distant about three-quarters of a mile from the Royal kraal. We find a few European residents at Buluwayo residing in huts surrounded by fences of the thorny mimosa bush. The Company's house used to be greatly frequented by the Matabele—queens, princes, and princesses, the regent, the rain and dance doctors, ladies young and old, elderly indunas and

the young soldiers—all anxious for some gift from the white men.

Buluwayo (“The one that is slain,” or “The place of killing”) is really a collection of kraals. In the centre is the king’s waggon; round it his wives’ circular huts, built of sun-dried bricks, roofed with reeds. Inside the kraal is a smaller division called the “buck-kraal,” into which his flocks of goat and sheep were driven at night, in the day being sacred to his Majesty and the scene of his incantations. Round the central group of huts is an open space about four hundred yards wide, outside which are the quarters of the warriors—about four thousand in number—and their families. The stockade, several miles in length, encloses all.

In sketching the progress made in Mashonaland since the occupation in 1890, I have given some account of the amount of gold-reef area traced and development accomplished in that territory. A few words may be said here on the subject of gold in Matabeleland, which all those who have travelled or lived in that country agree in considering to be of great extent. The best known of the gold districts is the Tati gold-field, where mining has been carried on for some time. The reefs here are rich and extensive. Insecurity and want of necessary capital have been the chief agents in delaying the development of this field, which is certain to become one of great importance; the difficulty of procuring labour, supplies, and bringing the requisite machinery to site, and the unhealthiness, also contributed to prevent much progress being made.

Mr. Frank Mandy, who lived close on twenty years in Matabeleland, believes the country through its greatest extent to be one vast and rich gold-field. In 1889 he wrote:—

"It is not until climbing out of the Limpopo basin, and surmounting the ridge, that you enter Matabeleland proper. Here outstretched before one is what will prove the largest and richest gold-field that the world has even seen ; extending from this great granite backbone in the south to within about sixty miles of the Zambesi in the north, and from the Sabi in the east to the Nata River in the west. This huge auriferous area ever improves and grows richer to the north, north-east, and east. The Matabele have never allowed any search for gold in [the land actually inhabited by them ; but the signs which greet the traveller's notice—the immense waves of promising quartz which seam the country, cutting through the soft soapy slate in a north-easterly direction ; the numberless old workings to be found in every direction, and the inability of some of the reefs to hide their gold from the prying though cautious gaze of the observant white man—all tend to prove the wonderful mineral wealth here locked up."

And again he says :—

"Right through the Royal town of Buluwayo runs an immense reef carrying visible gold. Close along Umvotcha (the country residence of Lo Bengula) streams another great reef, also unable to hide the gold imprisoned within its bosom. Two miles to the north-east of the old capital is yet another grand quartz reef with 'visible.' All these reefs have been traced for some miles. But to the north of Gangane lie what I believe will eventually prove to be the alluvial gold-fields of the world. The neighbourhood of the Amazoe River and its tributary streams is a veritable El Dorado. I have seen ignorant natives with the rudest appliances and practically no knowledge of gold-working wash large quantities of gold from the surface soil. Over an area of several hundred square miles gold is to be found in every stream."

The boundaries of Matabeleland lying between the Zambesi and Limpopo will be seen from the map. The watershed, stretching from Mount Umtigesa in Northern Mashonaland to the Bakarikari Lake in Bechuanaland is

42 *PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF MATABELELAND*

some five thousand feet above sea-level, covered with gold-bearing reefs, fast-running streams, and very healthy. The chief strata are granitic, with occasional sandstones and shales. The northern slopes of the tableland fall through a poor and inhospitable country, very broken, to the Zambesi. Towards the east the plateau slopes are abrupt and precipitous, forming a network of rugged hills, where the native tribes (Mashonas and Makalakas) are found, with their villages and hamlets hidden away as far as possible from sight, so as to avoid the Matabele, at whose hands they have suffered so much. The rains are very severe along this broken edge of the tableland, due to the rain-laden clouds from the Indian Ocean being arrested by this buttress and thus precipitated.

CHAPTER IV

BRITISH BECHUANALAND AND THE BECHUANA PROTECTORATE

Situation—Moffat and Livingstone's labours—British Protectorate—
Khama's description of his country—Pastoral country—Value of
Bechuanaland.

BECHUANALAND, the central part of South Africa, situated to the north of Cape Colony, west of the South African Republic, to the 20th meridian of east longitude, is best known in England from the work of Robert Moffat, the missionary, and the Warren Expedition of 1884. The Bechuanas are a mild, tractable, peaceable people, bearing a variety of tribal names.

Moffat worked for nearly fifty years among the Bechuanas, in the most devoted manner, reducing their language to writing, translating the Bible into their tongue and teaching them in various ways how to utilize the agricultural resources of the country. Dr. Livingstone, the pioneer of those explorations which have done so much to open Africa and connect the English name with this work, laboured among them. Khama, the most enlightened of African chiefs, of whom some further account is given elsewhere, was trained by missionaries, of whom it must be mentioned that Mr. Hepburn for twenty-five years has been his guide, philosopher, and friend.

In 1871 the Bloemhoff arbitration and the Keate award, repudiated by the South African Republic, contained the first germs of the various troubles which for so long disturbed the country. Some native chiefs who had been included in the Republic were excluded; and a status given to certain chiefs outside the Republic whose claims were disputed by others. After the retrocession in October 1881, a new boundary was laid down; but this did not satisfy the Republic and its native allies. The result was that, on the close of the Transvaal War in 1881, hostilities broke out between the rival parties; the territory being regarded as independent, many whites joined the contending chiefs as freebooters, and attempted to set up minor republics in these territories.

In 1884 it was agreed between Britain and the South African Republic that this state of anarchy should be crushed. The boundary agreed on placed the native chiefs claimed by the Republic and their freebooter assistants to within its boundaries. The British Government at the same time formed a protectorate over the whole of Bechuanaland lying outside of this revised boundary, thus retaining for the Cape Colony the trade route to the interior and the sole channel for South African colonial expansion. Towards this end, the Rev. John Mackenzie, as Deputy Commissioner, concluded treaties with the native chiefs. The freebooters still continued to occupy the country and make attacks upon one of the chiefs under our protection, which was protested against by Mr. Rhodes, who had succeeded Mr. Mackenzie.

It was decided to clear the territory of the freebooters, and establish peace and order, and this was effectually accomplished by the expedition under the command of Sir

Charles Warren, R.E., who held the territory till its fate was decided.

In 1885 the report of the British mission to Lo Bengula to discuss the question, stated : "Lo Bengula acknowledged that he had no title to the country except that of Umsili-gazi's conquest; and by saying 'formerly Khama had no country' he tacitly admits that now Khama has."

In that year the Imperial Government proclaimed British sovereignty as far north as the Molopo River, which territory was named British Bechuanaland; and, shortly after, a British Protectorate was proclaimed over the country to the 22nd parallel of south latitude, and extending our sphere of influence to the Zambesi. In 1891 the western boundary was extended to the 20th meridian of east longitude, coterminous with the German protectorate.

The following interesting description of his country was given by Khama when he came under British protection :—

"I, Khama, Chief of the Bamangwato, with my younger brothers and heads of my town, express my gratitude at the coming of the messengers of the Queen of England, and for the announcement to me of the Protectorate which has been established by the desire of the Queen, and which has come to help the law of the Bamangwato also. I give thanks for the words of the Queen, which I have heard, and I accept of (receive) the friendship and protection of the Government of England within the Bamangwato country.

"Further I give to the Queen to make laws and to change them in the country of the Bamangwato, with reference to both black and white. Nevertheless I am not baffled in the Government of my own town, or in deciding cases among my own people according to custom; but again I do not refuse help in these offices. Although this is so, I have to say that there are certain laws of my country which the Queen of England finds in operation, and which are advantageous for my people, and

I wish that these laws should be established, and not taken away by the Government of England. I refer to our law concerning intoxicating drinks, that they should not enter the country of the Bamangwato, whether among black people or white people. I refer further to our law which declares that the lands of the Bamangwatos are not saleable. I say this law also is good ; let it be upheld, and continued to be law among black people and white people.

“ My country has got known boundary lines :—

“ On the east the boundary line is that of the Transvaal going with the Limpopo until the Tolo River joins it. The Tolo is then the boundary ; but I come back to Makobe's Hill, and then go along the villages of the Malakala, who live between me and the Matabele ; from thence to the Gwai River till it falls into the Zambesi ; then I ascend the Zambesi till where it is joined by the Chobe ; then I go with the Chobe, and with the Malabi, and (with) Tamalakan and the Botlebi, till you come to Monomoato ; then the line crosses over and makes for Gaina, and Selabi, and Monkatusé, and Goodiva, and Khami, and thence to Tsitle, which is between Lopepi and Boatlanami ; then it makes for Lotlaka and Lelwala and Mogonono, including the grazing ground of these plains ; thence it proceeds to the Limpopo, where the Ngotwane joins it. The word which I hear speaks of 22° as shown in maps ought to be taken away. I do not express thanks for it. It speaks of nothing which has existence. Boundary line there is none at 22°. It is to cut my country into two. But I say, is not this a word spoken before my boundaries were known ? On account of matters of this description, and to make known to the Queen the largeness of the country which is now under her protection, I put in a map in which it is tried to show with correctness the boundaries of the Bamangwato. My people enjoy three things in our country ; they enjoy their cultivated lands, and their cattle stations, and their hunting-grounds. We have lived through these three things. Certainly the game will come to an end in the future, but at present it is in my country, and while it is still there I hold that it ought to be hunted by my people. I know that the help and protection of the Queen requires money, and I agree that that money should be paid by the country protected. I

have thought how this can be done ; I mean plans which can be thought out at the beginning so that the Queen's people may all be pleased—the black people and the white people. I propose that a certain country of known dimension should be mine and my people's for our cultivated fields and our cattle stations as I have shown in the map. Then I say, with reference to all the country that remains, I wish that the English people should come and live in it, that they should turn it into their cultivated fields and cattle stations. What I wish to explain is, that my people must not be prevented from hunting in all the country, except where the English shall have come to dwell. My people shall be stopped by cultivated lands and the cattle stations of the English inhabitants of the country. I speak this in effect inviting the English because it is a nation with which we have become acquainted, and with whose ways we have had pleasure. Then I request that the Queen's Government appoint a man to take charge of this matter, and let the protection of this country come from the English who will settle in it. I am of opinion that the country which I give over will exceed in value the cost of the Protectorate among the Bamangwato. But I feel that I am speaking to gentlemen of the Government of England. Shall I be afraid that they will requite me with witchcraft (deception leading to ruin)? Rather may I not hope that they may see both sides of the question of to-day, that they will regard the protection, and then regard also the country which I now say is theirs? That which I am also willing to contribute is to make due arrangements for the country of the lands and cattle stations of the Bamangwato, whether as to roads or bridges, or schools, or other suitable objects. And further, I shall be ready along with my people to go out, all of us, to fight for the country alongside the English ; to stop those who attack, or to go after them on the spoor of stolen stock. Further, I expect that the English people who come into the country shall protect it and fight for it, having provided themselves with horse and gun for this purpose. Having done this, without doubt, if there came a great difficulty, we would appeal for the help of our Queen in England. The right kind of English settler in the country will be seen by his doings on his place. Some may make themselves out to be settlers for a time only, while they are killing game,

after which they would take their departure with what they had collected, having done nothing with their place. Therefore, I propose that it be enacted that the English settler who newly arrives should build his house and cultivate his lands, and show himself to be a true settler and worker, and not a travelling trader. Those who shall be arrived in the country, to become settlers in it, ought to be approved by the officer of the Queen appointed to this work ; and I add, let us work together ; let me also approve of those who are received."

Reference has been made elsewhere to what is known as the "disputed territory," a tract lying between the Shashi and Macloutsie rivers, which was claimed by Khama and Lo Bengula. In March 1888 Khama issued a notice on the subject as follows :—

"I, Khama, Chief of the Bamangwato tribe, at Shoshong, do hereby give notice that the tract of country between the Shashi and Macloutsie rivers is debateable land and the subject of negotiation between Lo Bengula, Chief of the Matabele, and myself, and that I protest against the action of all persons prospecting or commencing mining operations in that district, and will not hold myself responsible for any loss which may result from premature outlay, which it may be necessary eventually to disallow."

The Bechuana tribe was always rich in cattle, native sheep, and goats ; gardens and cornfields surrounded their villages ; beyond these again are the cattle-posts placed at convenient points to command good pasturage and water. On the borders of the Kalihari Desert are hunting-stations, where their vassals, the Bakalihari and Bushmen, paid tribute in skins, feathers, and other products of the chase. Traders gradually extended northwards, until they reached the Zambesi, and the route *vid* Bechuanaland became the highway to the North.

The Bechuanas are not a warlike race ; they never had any military organization like the Zulus ; at the most there were insignificant tribal differences, and occasionally revolutions among themselves. Though no match for the Matabele, they are invaluable allies, and on the occasion of the Pioneer Expedition of 1890, as recently in the campaign against the Matabele, they did very good service, especially in connection with scouting duties. Some account of Khama, a really remarkable man, who has been a steadfast friend of the British, and who deserves well at our hands, has already been given.

The railway from the south has its present terminus at Vryburg, whence it is being extended to Mafeking, eventually to be carried on, doubtless, to Buluwayo by one line, and to Salisbury by another.

The revenue of the country has risen from £11,757 in 1886-87, to upwards of £52,000 in 1891-92. The expenditure is over £150,000, mainly due to the maintenance of the Bechuanaland border police, a force of close on five hundred men, costing about £100,000, for which a grant-in-aid by the British Government and a contribution from the British South Africa Company are made for the protectorate expenses.

The value of Bechuanaland has been the subject of much controversy from time to time. Its principal use is that of affording access to the North. It is a fairly valuable cattle-raising country ; sheep-raising has not as yet proved very successful. Various grain crops, such as maize and millet, and even wheat, have done well, considering the soil is merely scratched, never manured, and is without any irrigation. It is hoped, however, that the experiments in well-sinking and water-boring, under professional super-

vision, now being prosecuted by the Government, will prove a success.

Within the last two years there has been a considerable influx of farmers from the Cape Colony, the Orange Free State, and the South African Republic.

The western portion of Bechuanaland partakes somewhat of a desert character, with a fair proportion, however, of hard ground, consisting chiefly of limestone covered with the small karoo bushes, on which cattle, sheep, and goats thrive well. The difficulties of transport over the sandy wastes and stony tracts of this western region are great; but it is believed they could be overcome by the use of camels, which have proved a success in the similar tracts of the adjoining German Protectorate.

CHAPTER V

MANIKALAND

Treaty with Umtasa—Baron de Rezende—The gold-fields of Manika—Gouveia—Mr. Selous visits Massi Kessi—Major Forbes—Colonel Paiva d'Andrada—A *coup de main*—Tension between England and Portugal—Gazaland—Treaty with Motoko—The "Lion God" invoked—Signing the treaty.

IT has been stated elsewhere that an agreement entered into between England and Portugal in August 1890, demarcating the eastern limits of the British South Africa Company's territory, was never ratified, but formed the basis of a *modus vivendi*. The abortive treaty, however, was not actually accepted for this purpose until November 1890. [In this interval events had been moving with great rapidity, unanticipated by the Portuguese, whose jealousy and resentment had risen to a high pitch. Between August and November the Pioneer Expedition had succeeded in reaching its objective in Mashonaland and establishing itself there (Mount Hampden was sighted on the 12th of September 1890), and the Manika treaty had been concluded by myself on behalf of the British South Africa Company, two events of considerable importance which aroused the energies of the Portuguese, under the leadership of Colonel Paiva d'Andrada.

As mentioned elsewhere, the first step taken by me after arriving on the Mashonaland plateau was, accompanied by a small party, to make a rapid journey to Manika, by special invitation of the Chief Umtasa, to conclude a treaty of protection with him, and obtain for the British South Africa Company concessions for the mineral and other rights in his territory. I was desirous of obtaining some reliable information and, if possible, ocular evidence of that ever-vanishing and hitherto unknown quantity—the will-o'-the-wisp of so-called Portuguese "occupation." On our way up through Mashonaland, not a trace or vestige of the existence of the Portuguese at any time, much less of a present occupation of this country, to which they laid claim with much well-simulated indignation just a year before, could be detected, or at any rate was visible to the naked eye. The ruins we saw at Zimbabwe, for instance, and other places, could never, by the wildest stretch of imagination be ascribed to Portuguese handiwork, or admitted for one moment as fulfilling their invariable contention of "ancient ruins and traditions," upon which they laid so much stress and based their chimerical rights in this part of the world. Until we reached Manika there was nothing of general interest to record. We passed through some of the most charming scenery imaginable, crossing numerous streams of clear, swiftly flowing water over rocky beds, winding their way amongst perfect wooded mountain scenery, of which one could find its exact counterpart in favoured portions of either Scotland or Wales.

On the 13th of September we halted close to the objective point of the mission, the kraal of the Manika Chief, Umtasa (or Mutasa), or Mafamba-Busuko ("One who walks by night") as he prefers to style himself, or again,

Sifamba, as he is generally spoken of by the local natives. The kraal itself (at an altitude of 4300 above sea-level) is situated at the head of what is really a pass, completely concealed from below in mountain fastnesses and lying under a sheer massive granite ridge of rock another five or six hundred feet high—a position, at all events in Kafir warfare, absolutely impregnable.

Negotiations were at once opened and an interview arranged for the day after our arrival, an appointment that was punctually kept. It must be confessed that the appearance and presence of the hereditary and reigning monarch of the ancient kingdom of Manika were not quite all one would desire to see in a great ruler. No doubt the utmost resources of his wardrobe had been taxed and brought into requisition for this interview. About midday he appeared attired in a naval cocked hat, a tunic (evidently of Portuguese origin, but of ancient date, and forming perhaps some of the "ancient remains" to which the attention of the world had been so pathetically drawn), a leopard skin slung over his back, the whole toilette being completed by a pair of trousers that had evidently passed through many hands, or rather covered many legs, before assisting to complete the Court uniform of the "roitelet Mutassa," as the Portuguese termed him. He was preceded by his Court jester, who danced around him, uttering strange cries and ejaculations, and singing his praises (in which Umtasa cordially joined) as "the lion or leopard who walks by night, and before whose name the Portuguese and Matabele tremble." The retinue was completed by a few girls carrying "calabashes" of Kafir beer, and by a crowd of Indunas (or counsellors) and other loyal subjects. The King was evidently anxious to satisfy

himself thoroughly of the genuineness of my mission and the value and strength of the promises held out to him. It was not until the following day, the 14th of September, when in the Royal kraal a full *indaba* (or council) of Indunas was held, that, after lengthy discussion, a treaty was signed between myself, acting on behalf of the British South Africa Company, and the King of Manika. Before signing the treaty, it was most carefully explained to Umtasa that if he had at any time granted any treaty or concession to any one else, the negotiations would be at once closed. And it was only after his repeated assurance that such was not the case, that no treaty of any kind had ever been executed by him, and no concession ever granted to the Portuguese, that the Company's treaty with him was duly signed and formally witnessed by two of his own Indunas and some members of my party.

We learnt that some Portuguese connected with the Mozambique Company were established at Massi Kessi, at the foot of the slope of the plateau, and it was stated that the Company claimed a large tract of territory west of Massi Kessi by virtue of a concession from the Portuguese Government.

Umtasa, as I say, was repeatedly asked whether at any time he had ever ceded his country, either to the Portuguese Government or to the Directors of the Mozambique Company, and he as repeatedly denied ever having done so, as also did his chief counsellors. When questioned as to the terms he was on with the Baron de Rezende, the local representative of the Mozambique Company at Massi Kessi, he said, "I allow him to live there. He sometimes give me presents, but I have not given him my country, nor have I ever concluded any treaty with him."

Later on he said repeatedly that the Portuguese held an assegai at his heart, and when pressed for an explanation of this statement affirmed that he was terrorized and compelled to do what the Baron required of him by the threat that if he gave any trouble Gouveia would be called in to invade his territory with a large armed force. There is no doubt that the fear of this Portuguese free lance, ever looming in the distance, was instrumental in great measure in inducing Umtasa to conclude the treaty he did. It is true that he was evidently very greatly impressed by the fact of a large British expedition coming through the Matabele country from the far south, and some of its members so soon finding their way into his own dominions. The whiteness of their skins, as opposed to the dark yellow or black of the Portuguese half-castes, and their travelling with horses and pack animals, without porters and palanquins *à la Portugaise*, were also a source of great astonishment to him. But the fact he seized upon and grasped at once was undoubtedly the offer of protection by the British South Africa Company both for himself and his people. At the Chief's urgent request one policeman and a native interpreter were left with him as representatives of the Company, pending the establishment later on of a regular police post to safeguard the Company's interests in the Manika country, and to protect Umtasa against any attack that might be made upon him.

The treaty entered into between Umtasa and the British South Africa Company is most comprehensive. It provides that no one can possess lands in Manika except with the consent of the Company in writing; it concedes to the Company complete mineral rights; it gives permission for the construction and establishment of public works and

conveniences of all kinds, such as roads, railways, tramways, banks, etc. On the Company's side the King is assured of their protection both for himself and his people and the payment of an annual subsidy, either in money or in trading goods, at the option of the King. In concluding this treaty the British South Africa Company became possessed of a most valuable addition to Mashonaland.

Independently of Manika bringing the Company nearer to the seaboard (to which it is of such vital importance to have access), and leading up to steps which brought about the treaty of the 11th of June 1891, by which the navigation of the Zambesi and Shiré was declared free to all nations, and railway communication obtained *via* the Pumgwé, the Company secured a territory of undoubted great mineral wealth. From time immemorial "the gold-fields of Manika" have been marked on all maps. Our party passed through three valleys (watered by the Revue, the Umfuli, and Zambesi rivers), and we saw hillsides literally honeycombed with old alluvial workings for gold. When these extensive and very numerous workings were made it is impossible to say, but certainly centuries ago. The general opinion is that these shafts and pits, in places fully seventy or eighty feet deep (in many of which trees of good size have grown), were worked by gangs of slave labour under skilled supervision. Large quantities of gold must undoubtedly have been taken out of the country.

The "ancient kingdom of Manika," as it is called, was evidently at one time more extensive than at present. In recent years, however, the area covered by the Manika dominion proper seems to have undergone some shrinking process, especially on the east. Certain of Umtasa's vassals

have fallen away—instigated and encouraged by the Portuguese, doubtless—from their lawful ruler. Umtasa himself, as I have said, maintained that he had been “pressed by the assegai” of the Portuguese, and no doubt this has been the case with many others less able to take care of themselves.

The chief instrument of the Portuguese in carrying out their professions of “occupation” in these territories was the man named Gouveia (who met his death in 1892, when fighting a powerful neighbouring chief named Makombi, in what was known among the Portuguese as the “guerra de Makombi”), of whom a good deal was heard in connection with the Manika affair. Amongst the weak and unwarlike tribes of South-Eastern Africa this Goanese adventurer, Gouveia, otherwise known as Manuel Antonio de Souza, was regarded with feelings of mingled terror and detestation. And it is a matter of reproach to a nation which makes loud boast of its enlightenment and civilization that the terror inspired by such an agent should be the sole machinery which they possess to govern and control (and practically shut off from all the ameliorating influences of trade and commerce) many small tribes of unwarlike natives powerless to resist. Gouveia, the erstwhile “Capitan-mor” of the Gorongozo province, had done considerable service for his employers. He had been, as I say, the repulsive instrument employed by them in all their “little wars,” and as occasion arose, had been told off and commissioned to punish or (to use the expressive native term) “eat up” recalcitrant native Chiefs that did not at once appreciate the blessings of being brought under Portuguese influence by jumping at the offer of their flag. This is the usual mode of establishing a

footing with the simple-minded native Chiefs ; it is the first, and frequently the only, step in Portuguese "occupation." Gouveia was a man of considerable strength of character, and had a large force of armed blacks under his command. Being not too particular about his methods of warfare, he had inspired great dread among the various chiefs.

Gouveia, one of the so-called "Zambesi Princes," was notorious for his tyranny and cruelty, and had, by means of the annual subsidy paid him, the arms liberally supplied, and the support generally accorded him by the Portuguese, gradually gathered around him at his capital a body of probably as great scoundrels as that part of the world could produce. He had also, like "Colonel Ignacio de Xavier" (near Tete) and other Zambesi Princes, a very large number of slaves, and others whose servitude is hardly distinguishable from slavery. This man and the force at his disposal constituted the whole *quasi*-military force of Portugal in interior South-East Africa. On the coast, it is true—at Ibo, Angoche, Chiloane, and Delagoa Bay—there were small garrisons of so-called "troops" and police—at three of these places commanded by Goanese ; but they were so sickly, so ill-drilled, in a word such wretched material, that it is not an exaggeration to say that all these garrisons together could not furnish fifty men for service in the interior. At Mozambique there were some 250 men, and at Quilimane 50, the greater part quite unfit for active service through climatic disease. Delagoa Bay requires every "man" of its available force for local protection and police duties. One fact will illustrate the strength of the Portuguese on the coast. When Quilimane was threatened in 1884 by the natives, the authorities and garrison took flight in boats, leaving the British and foreign

merchants under Mr. F. Moir, of the African Lakes Company, to meet and repel the enemy, which they gallantly did near Mopea, quite unassisted by the Portuguese. At Inhambane, north of Delagoa Bay, bodies of so-called "Zulus" are enlisted by the Portuguese. Though not really Zulus, and indifferent fighting material, they are sufficiently good for acting against the interior native tribes, wretchedly armed and, generally speaking, spiritless, peaceable agriculturists. These Zulus were employed by Serpa Pinto on his famous (or infamous) expeditions against the Makololo and on the Shiré, the principal object of their employment being to keep together the main body of his expedition, a slave force drawn from the slave *prazos* in the neighbourhood of the Quilimane River. Gouveia, then, was the main support of the Portuguese in the interior, and Umtasa had very good reason, by means of diplomacy or otherwise, to avoid coming into collision with the Portuguese or bringing about one of those visits of persuasion with which Gouveia, on behalf of the Portuguese, had of late years favoured more than one independent chief—notably Makombe, at whose hands he afterwards met his death. Umtasa had also seen another neighbouring independent chief, Motoko—whose territory is close to what is marked as the Kaiser Wilhelm gold-fields on most maps—attacked by Gouveia; and although Motoko, who is said to have an unconquerable aversion to the Portuguese, had so well held his own that the "Guerra de Motoko" and its native equivalent are household words, Umtasa doubtless thought discretion the better part of valour. He therefore affected not to take any notice of the so-called Portuguese "occupation" at Massi Kessi, and had, to use his own expression,

been "sitting watching." In addition to the Baron at Massi Kessi, there had been recently several engineers employed in making reconnaissances for the much-talked-of Portuguese railway to Manika, sanctioned by royal decree in hot haste when matters were somewhat strained at Lisbon. With these exceptions, however, and one or two half-breeds living at a place on the Pungwe River close to the coast, there were no Portuguese, either pure blood or cross-breed, south of the Zambesi, in the interior of "Portuguese" South-east Africa.

Upon the conclusion of the Manika Treaty, Mr. Selous and two others of my mission rode on to Massi Kessi, where, it was said, some Portuguese were established. Mr. Selous and his friends on their way to that place met a party of East Coast blacks in charge of two Portuguese officials (one a captain in the Portuguese army, the other a civil engineer), recently arrived from the coast, and bearing a letter to me—I having remained behind in the neighbourhood of Umtasa's kraal—protesting against the presence of the representatives of the British South Africa Company in Manika, as well as in Mashonaland generally. On hearing that Mr. Selous, who had informed them where I could be found, wished to go on to Massi Kessi, they intimated their willingness to fall in with that arrangement, and Mr. Selous went on and visited the Baron de Rezende. The latter may have under normal circumstances a small retinue of black "soldiers;" but these, it was understood, had been told off summarily to swell the *cortège énorme, avec un drapeau déployé* (as the party was afterwards described), despatched late the evening before with the letter of protest to myself. Every nerve had no doubt been strained to render the *cortège* of as imposing an appearance as possible,

with the object of duly impressing me with the solid and substantial, not to say military, nature of Portuguese occupation. Beyond, however, this one isolated representative of the Mozambique Company, Mr. Selous failed to trace the existence of one single other resident Portuguese, either official, colonist, trader, or miner. There were certainly some two or three engineers in the neighbourhood, temporarily engaged in surveying, and there were the two recently arrived officials from the coast already mentioned.

The contrast between this and the occupation of Mashonaland by the British South Africa Company struck us very forcibly soon after. At Fort Salisbury—to say nothing of what had been done at the various stations below—within one month of the arrival of the expedition, three hundred prospectors were scouring the country in all directions in search of gold, forts had been built, huts were springing up in every direction, postal communication, too, was punctually kept up from below, and the work of administration was being soundly and firmly established.

The Baron de Rezende was spoken of in high terms by the English prospectors who enjoyed the privilege of his acquaintance. Towards Mr. Selous and party his demeanour was that of frigid official courtesy. He protested against our presence both in Manika and Mashonaland. He pointed out that all these territories belonged to his Majesty the King of Portugal from time immemorial; that the *roitelet* of Manika was a vassal of theirs; that their authority was based upon ancient rights, and rights secured from Gungunhama, King of the Gaza country, who recently had been induced to move with his people to the neighbourhood of Delagoa Bay, so as to enable the Portuguese to have a freer hand in Gazaland and Manika, as well

as to keep in closer touch with this powerful Kafir prince. It must be admitted that the Baron de Rezende, though evidently suffering from intense irritation, played his part courteously and well. He performed with dignity and tact the exceedingly difficult, if not impossible, task of bolstering up and defending claims and pretensions to vast regions which, in legal phraseology, have no foundation either in substance or in fact.

Meanwhile, towards the end of October, in consequence of reports from native sources that Colonel Paiva d'Andrada, accompanied by Gouveia with a large force of armed natives, was approaching the Manika country from the east, I determined to take decisive measures. I despatched small parties of police under Lieutenants Graham and the Hon. Eustace Fiennes, and later Major P. W. Forbes, to Umtasa's. To Major Forbes, in whom I had great confidence, I gave explicit instructions, which he carried out to my entire satisfaction. I judged that official, who had considerable experience, for one so young, of the conditions of soldiering in South Africa, to be a man of clear judgment, vigorous mind, and determined character, of which he has since given abundant proof. Upon his arrival at Umtasa's kraal on November 5th, Major Forbes learnt that Colonel Paiva d'Andrada, accompanied by Gouveia, had recently arrived at Massi Kessi with from 250 to 300 so-called "bearers," the majority armed with rifles, sword-bayonets, and reserves of ammunition. The avowed object of this armed force was to mete out punishment to Umtasa for signing the obnoxious treaty of September 14th. Major Forbes at once sent a letter to Colonel Paiva d'Andrada at Massi Kessi, protesting against his entering the Manika country with a large armed force, and warning him against

taking any steps which might wear the appearance of an attempt to upset the treaty, as any such action on his part would inevitably lead to serious and grave complications. Major Forbes further requested Colonel Paiva d'Andrada to withdraw his force both from Manika and from the territory of any Chief with whom treaties had been concluded by the British South Africa Company. This letter Colonel d'Andrada declined to answer.

Three days later, without any warning, Gouveia appeared at and occupied the Chief Umtasa's kraal with some seventy of his armed followers. Major Forbes, on hearing that Gouveia had established himself at the King's kraal, at once sent him a letter protesting against his presence there, and warning him that any attempt to coerce the Chief into granting interviews would be in defiance of his orders, which were to prevent any outside interference with the Chief Umtasa; and these orders he was prepared, if necessary, to carry out by force. To this letter Gouveia verbally replied that he should go where he liked, and that no Englishman should stop him. The daily expected reinforcements of the Company's police had not arrived, and with only a handful of men at his disposal, Major Forbes deemed it inadvisable to attempt to eject Gouveia from Umtasa's stronghold, situated, as we have seen, in a mountain fastness difficult of access. Meanwhile Colonel d'Andrada and the Baron de Rezende, with a large number of followers, all well armed, went inside Umtasa's stockaded kraal. In spite of Major Forbes's protests, news reached him on the 14th that both Colonel d'Andrada and Baron de Rezende had, with over 200 armed native followers, joined Gouveia at Umtasa's kraal, the last named having persisted in remaining there with the avowed object of

intimidating the Chief into a repudiation of the treaty. Major Forbes at once decided to put an end, by a *coup de main*, to the persistent action of the Portuguese in coercing and menacing the Company's friendly ally. With an escort of twelve men, he proceeded direct to the King's kraal, and meeting the Baron de Rezende at the threshold, informed him that he was to consider himself a prisoner. Penetrating behind the thick palisade of rough poles among the numerous huts of the now thoroughly alarmed and excited natives (who rushed to their arms, and ran about wildly in all directions), the representatives of the Company's police proceeded in their search, and within a short time arrested Colonel d'Andrada and Gouveia (the former being highly indignant and protesting volubly), persuading them that resistance was useless, and that they must proceed under escort to his camp. Meanwhile the second party, a few hundred yards off, were busy carrying out the task assigned to them, viz. of disarming the armed "bearers" of the Portuguese. The scene was an animated one. Upon the appearance of this party, and in the absence of their leader Gouveia, complete demoralization ensued among his followers. Thus was effected quietly but firmly, without the firing of a shot, or the loss of a single life, a very effective *coup de main*, destined to have important consequences, not only as regards Manika, but the position of the British South Africa Company generally. The plan of campaign of this "peaceful mission" of the Portuguese was to have been as follows: Umtasa, after having been brought to a proper frame of mind by the persuasive presence of Gouveia in his kraal for some days, was, on the arrival of Colonel d'Andrada and Baron de Rezende, in full *indaba* to have made the astounding state-

ment that twenty years ago, in return for Gouveia's "saving his life" (in other words, in return for services rendered him by Gouveia in the shape of helping him in some war with a neighbouring chief), he had sent an "elephant's tusk full of earth" to Gouveia, with the words, "Take my country—but come and save me."

Colonel Paiva d'Andrada protested that he was there on a peaceable mission as Director of the Mozambique Company, accompanied by his friend Gouveia, an employé of the Company, and the Baron de Rezende, the local agent; they were there to discuss certain questions in connection with the mining interests of the Company with Umtasa. Similar protests Colonel d'Andrada repeated later, resulting in an action taken against the British South Africa Company, still undecided. These assurances, however, were hardly reconcilable with the fact that the bearers carried not only arms, but side-arms; that orders had actually been given to barricade the enclosure gateways, and not only offer resistance to the approach of any English to the Chief's kraal, but to drive by force the small body of the Company's police out of Manika altogether—"peaceable" designs happily frustrated by the sudden and vigorous action taken by Major Forbes. That officer decided to despatch Colonel d'Andrada and Gouveia to Fort Salisbury, for to have released them upon parole in the Manika country would have been a fatal mistake. Such an action would have been attributed by the natives to weakness, and might have led to a dangerous rising among Gouveia's people in the Gorongoza province; whilst the arrest and deportation of the much-dreaded Gouveia by a handful of the British South Africa Company's police could not but raise British prestige not only in Manika, but throughout

the whole of South-Eastern Africa. The next day Colonel d'Andrada and Gouveia were accordingly despatched as prisoners on parole to Fort Salisbury. It was decided that Baron de Rezende (also placed on parole) should be allowed to return to Massi Kessi. Meanwhile Major Forbes occupied that place quietly and without any show of resistance. He had taken with him Baron de Rezende, and also M. de Llamby, an engineer of the Mozambique Company. On their arrival at Massi Kessi both these gentlemen were released on parole, and Massi Kessi was, as stated, temporarily occupied by a small detachment of the British South Africa Company's forces. Massi Kessi, it may here be said, is nothing but a trading station and stockaded compound, built by the Baron de Rezende in his capacity of local representative of the Mozambique Company. Upon the arrival at Fort Salisbury of Colonel Paiva d'Andrada and Gouveia, a prolonged interview with myself resulted in their being sent down country for the instructions of Mr. Rhodes and the High Commissioner, Sir Henry Loch. From first to last the prisoners were treated with scrupulous courtesy, and every consideration was shown them by the Company's officials that was possible under somewhat embarrassing circumstances.

Writing after the event, I am still of opinion, as I was then, that the steps taken by me were expedient. It must be remembered that our position in the country was by no means an assured one—exposed to the suspicion and animosity of the Matabele on the west, the jealousy and envy of the Boers on the south, and the bitter resentment of the Portuguese on the east and north-east. The arrest and deportation of these Portuguese officers removed a possible cause of danger to the existence of the new colony.

The incident caused great excitement in Portugal, and raised a bitter feeling against England. It is not necessary to refer, except in the briefest terms, to the occurrences of that time. Bands of student volunteers were raised in Lisbon, and amid a whirlwind of patriotic demonstrations sent off to Beira, at the mouth of the Pungwé, with the apparent intention of marching on Manika and ejecting the British. Nothing came of all these preparations for war beyond an attack on the British South Africa Company's border police post at Umtali, in Manika, made on the 11th May 1891, when the Portuguese force was repulsed by Captain Heyman and a small number of our police.

The difficulties between England and Portugal were, after much further negotiation, happily ended by the ratification of a new agreement, dated 11th of June 1891 (*See Appendix No. IV.*), under which Portugal fared certainly worse than under the treaty repudiated by the Cortes. The boundary was drawn further east than in the previous treaty. The frontier, starting from the Zambesi near Zumbo, runs in a general south-east direction to a point where the Mazoe River is cut by the thirty-third degree of east longitude; it then runs in a generally south direction to the junction of the Limpopo and Sabi, whence it strikes south-west to the north-east corner of the South African Republic, on the Limpopo. The frontier follows the edge of the plateau; but the Portuguese sphere was not allowed to come further west than $32^{\circ} 30'$ E. of Greenwich, nor the British sphere east of 33° E. A slight deflection was made westwards to include Massi Kessi in the Portuguese sphere, Umtasa's town being left in the British region.

The claims of Portugal to Gazaland may be here briefly referred to. Gazaland is a vast native territory situate on the South-East African littoral, bounded on the east by the Indian Ocean for some six hundred miles, on the north by the Zambesi for about three hundred miles, on the west by Mashonaland, and on the south by Tongaland, Swaziland and the Transvaal.

Early in this century Gazaland—indeed South Africa south of the Zambesi—as far south as the Kei River district, in what is now the Cape Colony, was populated by a large number of clans or tribes of aborigines of the great Bantu race, and all speaking one or other of the dialects of that tongue. One of these tribes claimed dominant power, and, by the commanding powers of its leader Chaka, and the warlike attributes of the tribe itself, this Zulu tribe grew by conquest till it had consolidated in one large empire all the other hitherto independent clans and tribes within a radius of several hundred miles. Chaka's power was thus extended all over the present Colony of Natal, a portion of the Cape Colony, the district of Delagoa Bay, and the eastern portion of the Orange Free State and Transvaal. In 1820 two of Chaka's fighting captains fell into disgrace. One of these, Umziligazi—as noticed elsewhere—ravaged his way to Matabeleland, and the other, Soshangane, broke to the north and settled in Gazaland, where he was accepted as paramount chief. When Soshangane died he was succeeded by Umzila, who on his death left a well-consolidated kingdom to his chief son, Umdungazwe (called also Gungunyane and Gungunhama), the present paramount Chief. Not long after Umzila's death, Umdungazwe sent an embassy to the Governor of Natal with the intimation that Umzila was dead, and that he, Umdungazwe,

reigned in his stead. The embassy received no encouragement.

The Portuguese were tolerated on the coast by the natives, and their influence gradually extended inland. The possession of the only ports in use on the Gaza littoral allowed the Portuguese to control the ingress to the country from the sea.

The Portuguese are understood to base their claims to Gazaland upon its discovery by the Portuguese, upon the contention that the Gaza King is their vassal, and upon the assumed existence of a treaty alleged to have been made between Gungunhama and themselves. The supposed treaty proved to be a document signed at Lisbon, from which the signature of Gungunhama is absent. It is not necessary to discuss the validity or otherwise of the other contentions as, although Gungunhama sent two envoys to England in the summer of 1891 to offer his allegiance to Her Majesty, Lord Salisbury declined to take him under British protection, except as to that portion of his territory which is, according to the Anglo-Portuguese agreement, within the British sphere.

What Portugal will do with Gazaland remains to be seen. It is much to be feared it will be in the future what it has been in the past—nothing. Portugal has certainly not the capital to carry out the work of colonization and development, and seemingly she no longer possesses the initiative energy she once undoubtedly exerted in this direction. Some of her statesmen, however, such as Barros Gomes, judging from their published despatches, are animated by the example of their great past.

As a valuable and interesting account of the territory under a native Chief, the primitive religion practised, and

as throwing many side-lights upon native life, I here give a report submitted to me by Mr. Selous of a mission with which I had entrusted him to the powerful Chief Motoko, living to the south of the Mazoe.

“ I have the honour to report that on the 19th of December, 1890, I left Fort Salisbury in order to conclude the negotiations opened with Motoko, paramount chief of the Mabudja, during the previous month, to get a mineral concession from him in favour of the British South Africa Company, and at the same time to obtain his signature to a treaty of alliance with the British in Mashonaland.

“ I travelled with a waggon, and was accompanied by Mr. W. Leslie Armstrong, an employé of the British South Africa Company, a young man whose services have been of the greatest assistance to me during the whole trip.

“ After leaving Fort Salisbury, I followed the waggon road to Mangwendi's as far as the eastern branch of the Makubisi River (about four miles distant from the fort), after crossing which I left it, and took a more easterly course towards Sikadoro's Town, which I reached early the next morning. The country between Fort Salisbury and Sikadoro's Town is magnificent, and appears possessed of every requisite for agriculture or stock-farming. Starting from Fort Salisbury at a height of four thousand nine hundred and sixty feet above sea-level, we travelled over gently undulating downs, down every hollow in which ran a stream of the clearest water, and over which were scattered patches of forest of small extent, yet sufficient to shelter cattle during cold weather, until, when within three miles of Sikadoro's Hill, we had attained an altitude of five thousand three hundred feet. From this point we obtained a magnificent view over the country to the north-east, which lay spread out before us in a series of green, well-watered valleys, interspersed with granite hills, until hill and valley became blended into one blue mist in the far distance. After leaving Sikadoro's Town we travelled nearly due east, and, crossing the rivers Nola, Inyagui, Inyakambiri, Shabanoghivi, Urgurughivi, Monyokivi, and a multitude of smaller streams, reached Rusungivi Hill, which

is about thirty miles distant from Motoko's Kraal, on the 26th of December. The previous day, which, although unaccompanied by snow or plum-pudding, was nevertheless Christmas Day, we spent near the source of the river Monyokivi, at an altitude of about four thousand seven hundred feet above sea-level. The day was a hot one for Mashonaland, as the sun shone out strongly from amongst scattered clouds charged with rain ; yet I could not help contrasting it and the following night with those of Christmas 1889, which I spent in Cape Town. I still have a lively remembrance of the broiling heat of that day, aggravated by the necessity of wearing coat, collar, and necktie, and the stuffy closeness of the night that followed. But how different was my experience on Christmas Day, 1890, on the breezy downs of Mashonaland ! Up till eleven o'clock the almost constant south-easterly breeze kept the air delightfully cool and pleasant. From that time till 4 p.m. the wind fell, and the sun was certainly hot, but by no means oppressively so. After that the breeze sprang up again, and reduced the evening air to a temperature as near perfection as possible, whilst during the night it became cold enough to justify the use of a couple of blankets ; and this, let me remark, is the normal summer climate of the Mashona uplands, where hot nights are almost, if not entirely, unknown. After passing Rusungivi Hill, we had to do a good deal of chopping to make a passage for the waggon through thick groves of mahobohobo trees, and on the 27th of December crossed the Inyamashupa River (a tributary of the Inyadiri) which forms the boundary between the territories ruled over by Mangwendi and Motoko. The following day, after travelling through a well-wooded country intersected by numerous streams, we reached our old camp near Kalimazondo's Town, which is about six miles to the south-east of Motoko's. Here I was delayed four days whilst communications were opened with the 'Mondoros' or 'Lion God'—a sort of high priest who appears to have more power in the country than Motoko himself. This high priest's office is hereditary, and no step of any importance is ever taken in the country until this 'Lion God' has been consulted. He is the only god the people know of or worship. They pray to him, and make him propitiatory offerings, and the place where he lives is called 'Zimbabwi,' which practically

means 'a place of prayer and sacrifice.' All the tribes living in the neighbourhood of the river Mazoe, both north and south of it, have a 'Mondoro,' or 'Lion God,' or high priest, whose office is hereditary, and who has really more power than the chief; but all these tribes, with the exception of the Mabudja, have been so broken up that the chiefs have probably lost all belief in their gods, and the gods in themselves, and neither the one nor the other any longer attempt to stand on their dignity when visited by strangers. With the Mabudja, however, it is different. They are still a nation, and, what is more, a warlike nation, capable of putting several thousands of warriors into the field, and they still believe in themselves and their god. Just now they are particularly self-satisfied, as last year, after refusing to accept the Portuguese flag, they were able to beat off the attack that was made upon them by a large and well-armed force under Manoel Antonio de Souza, the well-known Capitao Mor of Gorongoza, who was dispatched against them by the Portuguese, in order to persuade them to a better state of mind.

"In consequence of the consultations between Motoko and his god as to the advisability of concluding a treaty with the British in Mashonaland, we were delayed for four days at Kalimazondo's Kraal. As, however, it rained almost incessantly during that time, both day and night, in such a manner as to render travelling with a waggon impossible, this did not very much matter. At length a message came, telling Kalimazondo that he was to take the white man by the hand and bring him to Motoko. A wish was also expressed that I should bring the waggon and the big oxen and the horses. So on the following morning I inspanned, and reached Motoko's kraal on the 2nd of January. I was under the impression that I should be able to see Motoko on the following day, but in this I was mistaken, for it was not until some days later, on the 6th of January, that I was at last permitted to interview the venerable old chief. During the four days previous to this I held many meetings with large numbers of the elders of the tribe, to whom I had to explain the purport of my mission. They one and all agreed that Motoko would be only too happy to make friends with the British, and to allow them to look for gold in his country, make roads through it, etc.; but they seemed very suspicious about his putting his name on a

paper. After four days' constant interviewing, my diplomacy and my patience were well-nigh exhausted, and I was still kept at arm's length from Motoko. During these four days hundreds upon hundreds of natives, men and women, boys and girls, came daily to see the white men, the waggon, the large oxen (their own breed of cattle are very small), the horses, and the donkeys. The crowd, however, that all day long surrounded us was always a good-tempered one. At last, on the 6th of January, Siteo, the eldest son, I believe, of Motoko, came and said that Motoko was ready to see me; so I at once sent for the horses, not knowing exactly how far off Motoko's village actually was; but it turned out he was not half a mile away, on the top of an enormous gently sloping mass of granite rock. At the foot of this rock I left the horses, and, accompanied by Mr. Armstrong and William Hokogazi, my Zulu servant, made my way through a dense mass of people to near the top of the granite rock. During our progress up the rock, a distance of perhaps two hundred yards, we walked along a lane left for us amongst a dense mass of natives, who were packed tightly all over the open granite slab, nearly all squatted down. It is difficult to estimate numbers, but I am sure that at this interview Motoko was surrounded by far over a thousand men, all fully armed, a large number of them with guns, the rest with assegais, battle-axes, and bows and arrows. When we reached the highest portion of the granite slab (which, it must be remembered, was a naked rock some acres in extent) we found that a kind of arbour of boughs had been erected, beneath which sat Motoko, the aged chief of the Mabudja, with two marimba-players behind him, and a few old men on either hand. All around the arbour the older and more important members of the tribe were squatted; none of these men carried arms, and I saw that their assegais were all tied up in bundles and laid outside the arbour. And now, without any delay, I was introduced into the presence of Motoko. He is the oldest man, I feel sure, that I have ever seen, and must be nearly, if not quite, a hundred years old. William declared that he was so old he must be the contemporary of Chaka. As soon as I had seated myself, a man rushed forward, and shouted out a few words in praise of Motoko, and immediately afterwards a crowd of women, who were standing

in the background, broke out into a shrill quavering cry, which is meant as a welcome to strangers. As soon as the noise had subsided, I told Motoko, through William Hokogazi and Sipiro, my interpreters, the purport of my visit ; the meaning of the writing on the paper to which I wished him to put his name, and the reasons why it was absolutely necessary that he should sign his name if he was willing to grant the concession asked for, and to conclude a treaty with his neighbours the British. He listened very attentively to all that was said, made some intelligent comments, referring to the fear he entertained of being attacked by the Portuguese ; said that messengers from Umtasa had lately informed him of all that the British South Africa Company had done in Manika ; and finally said that he was very glad of the opportunity of concluding a treaty of friendship with the British ; that his country was theirs, and that Englishmen might go where they liked in it to look for gold. I then said, ' If the words you have spoken come from your heart, I will write your name and my own on the paper which has been translated to you, and you must make an ' x ' behind your name.' He then placed his hand on mine whilst I wrote his name, and made the ' x,' as his hand was too old and shaky to actually hold the pen. Siteo and Kalimazondo then made crosses as witnesses for Motoko, whilst Mr. Armstrong and William Hokogazi did the same on behalf of the company, and the treaty between Motoko and the British South Africa Company was concluded. As the old man was evidently fatigued with the interview, my party and I now shook hands with him and bade him good-bye. On the way back to the waggon we were escorted by at least a thousand men, all in a state of great excitement. On arriving at the foot of the rock they asked me to let them see the horse gallop, which I did. This apparently excited them, and then, in their turn, they gave me a very interesting exhibition, something equivalent to a sham fight ; they made charges upon an imaginary enemy, brandishing spears, knives, battle-axes, and bows and arrows. Two men devoted themselves entirely to making a shrill whistling noise with a kind of reed flute, a sort of pibroch, with which, I suppose, a real charge would be accompanied. It was a very savage scene ; and I must say the performers looked as if they

would thoroughly enjoy sticking an assegai into somebody or anybody, and I have no doubt they would. To Mr. Armstrong and myself, however, they evinced great friendship, constantly rushing up and shouting out, 'Shamari a Motoko' ('Friend of Motoko').

"Altogether, I consider that the signing of the concession and the treaty of alliance by Motoko is very satisfactory business, although it took a long time and the exercise of much patience to obtain ; for it was done in full council and in the presence of a large number of his people.

"In conclusion, I will say that Motoko's country is of great extent, and comprises all the territory west of Mangwendi's and Umsawasha's that lies between the Ruenya and Mazoe rivers, and that the gold-fields visited by Mauch, and called by him the Kaiser Wilhelm Gold Fields, are within his dominions. The whole of his country in the neighbourhood of the Lower Mazoe and the Ruenya, none of which has ever been visited by a white man, will also probably prove to be auriferous. A large portion of Motoko's country lies at an altitude of about four thousand feet above the sea-level, and seems very fertile. His people are wonderfully well supplied with all kinds of vegetable food, and in no part of the country have I seen such fine rice as is here grown—of very large grain and beautifully white. The Mabudja people are entirely different in appearance, manners, and disposition from all the other tribes inhabiting the British South Africa Company's territory in Mashonaland. Physically they are a fine race, and in disposition they are undoubtedly warlike and ferocious. From what I saw and hear I feel sure that Motoko could muster at least five thousand fighting men, and in a short space of time.

"The language they speak is merely a dialect of the language spoken by all the other tribes in this part of South Eastern Africa. Motoko's country has been constantly raided by the Abagaza, with whom they say they used to have periodical encounters ; but the majority of them do not even know the name of Lo Bengula or the Amandibili, which is not very surprising, considering that no impi of Lo Bengula has ever penetrated to within several days' journey of even the western border of Motoko's country."

CHAPTER VI

THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY

British Bechuanaland—Treaty with Lo Bengula—Various interests consolidated—Charter granted to the British South Africa Company—Mr. Rhodes—Estimate of his capacity—Railway and telegraph extensions—Mr. Selous—Founding of Salisbury—Mr. Colquhoun appointed Administrator—Difficulties overcome—Admirable conduct of the staff—Conditions of land grants—Nyassaland—Progress in Mashonaland since 1890—Gold—The Beira Railway—Capabilities of Mashonaland.

THE expansion and partition of South Africa has been already sketched. Here it may be noted that it was only when some of the European Powers, developing colonial aspirations, began to partition Africa, that Britain took steps to secure a portion of the regions rapidly being appropriated.

The first step was, in 1885, the extension of sovereignty over British Bechuanaland and the country northward to the Zambesi, ensuing upon the expedition of Sir Charles Warren.

The Boers, in 1885, planned an expedition for taking possession of Mashonaland. The Portuguese showed signs of renewed activity, in 1887, and a protest was made by Lord Salisbury against an official Portuguese map claiming a portion of Matabeleland.

Germans, Boers, Portuguese were thus ready to lay hands on Matabeleland. It became evident that no time was to be lost if England was to secure the Zambesi as the northern border of South African extension.

In 1888 a treaty of amity and peace was concluded with Lo Bengula, the King agreeing to refrain from entering into any correspondence or treaty with foreign Powers without the sanction of the High Commissioner for South Africa. Various syndicates were despatched to Matabeleland for the purpose of obtaining permission for the exploitation—mining, and working of minerals in his territory. A concession was granted to Mr. C. D. Rudd, Mr. Rochfort Maguire, and Mr. F. R. Thompson (*See Appendix I.*), in consideration of the monthly payment of one hundred sovereigns to himself, his heirs and successors, the delivery of one thousand Martini breech-loading rifles and ammunition, and the placing of a gunboat, with guns suitable for defensive purposes, on the Zambesi river. This concession was, later on, extended by the acquisition of rights as to the disposal of vacant lands with due regard to native tenures.

In 1889 the various interests were concentrated in one company, and Mr. Rhodes and those associated with him, holding the concession granted by Lo Bengula, took steps for the founding of the British South Africa Company, under a Royal Charter, for working the mineral and other concessions, extending railways and telegraphs in the direction of the Zambesi, encouraging emigration and colonization, and promoting trade and commerce. The Imperial Government granted the charter on the 29th October 1889 (*See Appendix II.*), according to the British South Africa Company powers of government in the country

lying immediately to the north of British Bechuanaland, to the west and north of the South African Republic, and to the west of the Portuguese dominions, and providing for a deed of settlement defining the objects of the Company, and containing regulations for the conduct of its affairs, which was completed on the 3rd of February 1891. The names of those to whom the charter was granted were the Duke of Abercorn, the Duke of Fife, Lord Gifford, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Beit, Mr. Albert Grey, and Mr. Cawston. The capital of the Company was a million sterling.

Mr. Rhodes, who has been so prominent during the past few years in connection with schemes for the expansion of British South Africa, is destined to play a leading part in the future. So much has been written regarding him, that it is unnecessary to give more than the briefest outline of his career. Finding himself at the age of sixteen in South Africa, where he had gone in search of health, he at first took to farming, and then was in the early rush to Kimberley, where he afterwards made a large fortune. He returned to England, and took his degree at Oxford. On his return to South Africa he was, as Deputy-Commissioner in Bechuanaland, largely instrumental in securing and organizing that territory for England. For many years a member of the Cape Parliament, he became Treasurer-General (equivalent to our Chancellor of the Exchequer) at twenty-eight years of age. Gordon met Mr. Rhodes at the Cape, and asked him to join in the Mission to Khartoum, which circumstances made it impossible to accept. After obtaining the charter for the British South Africa Company, and organizing the Pioneer Expedition for the occupation of Mashonaland, he became Premier of the Cape Colony in 1890. Among the estimates of Mr. Rhodes, that

given by Mr. Scott Keltie, in his "Partition of Africa," is so excellent, that I quote from it:—

"Mr. Rhodes is probably, as are most men, willing enough to make a fortune, and it is generally believed that he has succeeded. But his actions and utterances in recent years show that he is actuated not simply by the desire to accumulate a fortune; indeed, the impression made upon those who know him best is that he is indifferent to money for its own sake. Whatever may have been his original motives for seeking to secure a leading share in the partition of Matabeleland, his aim seems rapidly to have developed into the ambition of forming a great South African Confederation, extending far into the heart of Africa, and joining hand with the British sphere on the Upper Nile. His conduct not only with regard to Matabeleland, but also in connection with his attempt to federate all the South African states, to acquire Damaraland from Germany, and to spread British suzerainty over the wide region on the north of the Zambesi, can only be adequately explained on the supposition that he is actuated by some such motive."

The first action taken was to arrange the extension northwards of the Colonial Railway, which then terminated at Kimberley. Agreements were made with the High Commissioner and the Cape Government, under which the line has been continued from Kimberley to Vryburg, without cost to the Company, and is to be prolonged by the Company to Mafeking. The line was opened to Vryburg on the 3rd December 1890.

A grant of 6000 square miles of land in British Bechuanaland, with all mineral rights, in aid of the construction of the line to Vryburg, was conceded to the Company. The Cape Government took 4000 square miles of this, and the balance, 2000 square miles, with a further Government grant of 6000 square miles, was made available towards the cost of the Mafeking section, which is now in hand.

Simultaneously with the railway, the telegraph system was extended northwards from Mafeking, under the superintendence of Sir James Sivewright, and progressed rapidly. By the end of 1891, the wire had been laid beyond Fort Victoria (630 miles from Mafeking), and on the 16th February 1892 it was completed as far as Salisbury, covering a total distance of 819 miles.

Native labour was largely used in this work. On the first portions the men belonging to the tribes of the chiefs Montsoia, Batwen, and Ikaning were successively employed, and later on Khama, paramount chief of the Bamangwato, sanctioned the employment of his subjects.

The following are the offices which have been opened, viz :—

IN BRITISH BECHUANALAND : Mafeking.

IN THE PROTECTORATE : Ramgutsa, Gaborones, Mochudi, Palla, Palapye, and Macloutsie.

IN MASHONALAND : Tuli, Nuanetsi, Victoria, Charter, and Salisbury.

The telegraph is now being carried northward towards the Zambesi, to form connection later with Nyassaland, joining all the lakes, hereafter linking on the Cape to Cairo, an important project planned by Mr. Rhodes.

This scheme is, I am aware, regarded in many quarters as a visionary one which, even if feasible, would be of very problematic advantage. The telegraph in my opinion is no less important than the railway as a means of opening up a new country. The provision of a great trunk line would (apart from administrative considerations) supply a rapid and efficient means of conducting business negotiations, which, in the absence of postal road communication, would be impracticable. It is a well-known fact that in Persia, a

country practically devoid of roads, the establishment of a telegraph system with cheap rates for messages, has led to an enormous development of internal intercourse and trade. The same is true of China. Mr. Rhodes has, in my judgment, shown great prescience in his active encouragement of this Central African telegraph scheme.

In 1889 the Portuguese again became active, and Colonel Paiva d'Andrada, an able officer, took steps (too late, however) to establish some semblance of effective occupation. Negotiations with Lo Bengula, early in 1890, resulted in his permission being given for the development of the eastern portion of his territory, known as Mashonaland, and, towards that end, for the entry of an expedition into Mashonaland by a route skirting the eastern edge of the plateau of Matabeleland, avoiding all contact with the Matabele kraals, and, so far as possible, the danger of exciting the suspicions and hostility of the Matabele, more especially the military or war party, who were much opposed to the idea of the expedition.

A scheme for the occupation of Mashonaland was elaborated by Mr. Rhodes early in 1890, whereby a Pioneer Expedition of 200 armed and mounted Europeans, composed of English and South African volunteers, was organized by Major Frank Johnson for the purpose of opening a road into Mashonaland and reaching the objective point, Mount Hampden, and there establishing an administrative centre. This force was strengthened by a body of 500 mounted police, especially raised for the purpose, admirably equipped with arms, mountain and machine-guns, electric light and other appliances; the whole most efficiently commanded by Colonel Pennefather, of the Inniskilling Dragoons.

The Company had very serious difficulties to contend with at the time—on the west the impis of Lo Bengula ; on the south the Boers ; on the east and north-east the Portuguese. The position of affairs on several occasions was undoubtedly critical, and it was with difficulty Lo Bengula prevented his matjakas from attacking the expedition.

It is not necessary here to relate at any length the story of this expedition, which attracted much attention at the time, but a few of the main features may be recounted.

The expedition started from the Macloutsie River on the 25th of June 1890 and in ten weeks' time reached its objective. Mr. F. C. Selous, whose knowledge of the country was greater than that of any other man, carried out the duties of chief scout and intelligence officer, as well as road engineer, in the most admirable manner, and was of the greatest service to the expedition. He has recently been acting with the column under Major Goold-Adams, in the operations against the Matabele, where his unrivalled knowledge of the country has again been of the greatest value. Mr. Selous has been since 1871 in South Africa, where he has gained a great reputation as a hunter and collector of specimens of natural history for museums. He is an admirable surveyor, observer, and explorer, and describes his experiences in a most interesting manner. For his contributions to geography he has been awarded the "Cuthbert Peak Grant," in 1883 ; the "Back Premium," in 1889 ; and the gold medal of the Royal Geographical Society in 1893.

A march of 450 miles, and a road cut through bush and forest, with difficult rivers to traverse, was accomplished without any collision having occurred with the Matabele,

without a shot being fired, or a life lost. Four forts were established *en route*, drifts across rivers and corduroy bridges made. On the 12th of September 1890 the expedition reached its destination—the present town of Salisbury, the capital of Mashonaland.

Here I ask to be permitted to speak in terms of eulogy of this enterprise, so peaceably and successfully executed, which justly evoked the admiration of the English race. I have less hesitation in doing so, as I was in no way responsible for the conduct of the undertaking, and merely accompanied it with instructions to report on the carrying out of the expedition, being also entrusted with a commission to assume the duties of Administrator on arrival at Mount Hampden.

Before reaching that point, and soon after arriving on the plateau, I made a detour eastward for the purpose of visiting the Manika country, and while there executed the treaty, of which some account has already been given, which secured a very valuable addition to the territory of the British South Africa Company. I then undertook the office of Administrator.

The successful occupation of Mashonaland and progress made by the pioneers was viewed with great resentment by Portugal. An agreement was concluded in August 1890 (while the Pioneer Expedition was on its way to Mashonaland) between England and Portugal, by which the eastern limits of the Company's territory were determined, and the course of the Sabi River, from north to south, taken as a boundary. This treaty was never ratified; it was, however, taken as the basis of a *modus vivendi*, pending further negotiation. Afterwards occurred the trouble with the Portuguese in Manika, which at one time threatened to

take a very serious turn, of which the history has already been given.

The machinery for the administration of the country was soon organized, on a somewhat rough but simple and effective basis. In terms of their contract the pioneers were disbanded, and immediately dispersed in every direction seeking for gold. Most unfortunately the rains, which commenced in December 1890, were exceptionally severe and protracted; the rivers in our rear between the base and the plateau were in flood and impracticable for several months, thus causing an interruption in the communications. The expeditionary force had taken with it but limited supplies of food, clothing, and mining instruments, it being intended to push in more later on, which was found to be impossible under the circumstances. We had to do our best with native meal, which was not plentiful, and for which we had not sufficient barter-stuff to pay, and with game which was shot. The prospectors in the low valleys, with an insufficiency of suitable clothing, food, and medicines and poor tent accommodation, contracted malarial fever, from which recovery under the conditions was difficult. The result was much privation and hardship, and many deaths from sickness. As soon as possible after the rains began to abate communications were re-opened, and large quantities of supplies sent into the country, and gradually all the conditions of life in Mashonaland improved. A mission was despatched by me to Tete, to procure food supplies, which succeeded in bringing in a considerable amount and proved very useful.

The spirit animating the officers and men of the police force, as well as the behaviour of the pioneers, during a period of considerable trial, was deserving of the highest

praise, and was a proof that our countrymen have the power to endure a trying situation as well as the venturesome spirit to carry through an undertaking which undoubtedly involved considerable danger. The overcoming of such initial difficulties as were encountered in the first days of Mashonaland was largely due to the co-operation of Major P. W. Forbes, commanding in Mashonaland during the absence of Colonel Pennefather on duty, and other officers, and to the pluck and endurance of the men, whether police or pioneers.

The difficulties met with in organizing the administration of a territory of the extent now occupied were considerable, especially with the greater number of the settlers dispersed in every direction in an eager search for gold.

Among the first steps taken by me were the formation of a head-quarters at Salisbury, the establishment of postal communication, the laying out of townships, the creation of mining districts with Mining Commissioners, the dealing with applications for mining rights and licences, the adjustment of disputes among the settlers, the establishment of hospitals, the preparation and introduction of mining and other laws and regulations, the initiation of a survey, the opening out of roads to the various mining centres, the despatch of missions to native chiefs, the diplomatic action with the Portuguese. It must also be borne in mind that the settlers were naturally very impatient for rapid progress, such as under the then existing conditions of the country was not possible.

Having suffered considerably from the climate in the rainy season of 1890-91 I was invalided home, and resigned my position as Administrator in the autumn of 1891, being succeeded by Dr. L. S. Jameson, who now holds that office.

In 1891 the military police force was disbanded, Colonel Pennefather and the majority of the officers returning to their regiments. Only a few men were retained to act as civil police, quartered at the various magisterial centres. To replace the military police a volunteer force was formed, the present strength of which is about five hundred, under Major Forbes as commanding officer. In addition to the volunteers, every able-bodied man is liable to serve in defence of the country, so that for this purpose a force of about one thousand five hundred men is held to be available.

A few words may be said on the subject of the land settlement.

Under the Rudd Concession the grantees obtained the complete and exclusive charge over all metals and minerals within Lo Bengula's dominions, and authority to exclude from his territory all persons seeking lands, metals, minerals, or mining rights, and an undertaking by Lo Bengula, to render them such needful assistance as they might require for the exclusion of such persons, and to grant no concession of land or mining rights from that date without the grantees' consent and concurrence. The Company was advised that under the clauses of their concession they might grant occupation rights over vacant lands, which would be good as against any other white claimant, though they did not enable them to effect a permanent land settlement, as it was clear that under this concession the land could not be completely dealt with without the joint consent of Lo Bengula and the grantees. In these circumstances, when it was ascertained that Lo Bengula had parted with his rights in the land to the representative of a group which had long taken a part in Matabeleland affairs, the Company acquired the rights so granted,

which, along with the previous rights of the Company under the Rudd Concession and the ratification of these grants by the British Government, invest the Company with full power to deal with the land throughout Lo Bengula's dominions, subject of course to a full recognition of and respect for native tenures.

The conditions under which the Company at present grants land to settlers, which apply without distinction of race to all Europeans in South African States and Colonies, are as follows :—

1. The payment of an annual quit-rent in advance of £3 per 1500 morgen (3000 acres), and four shillings for every additional 100 morgen or portion thereof. No single grant to exceed 3000 morgen.

2. The reservation of all precious stones, minerals and mineral-oils, with the right of ingress and egress.

3. The reservation of the right to make roads, railways and telegraphs over the land, and to take material for these purposes without compensation, except for improvements actually interfered with, which will be paid for upon valuation, recourse being had to arbitration, if necessary.

4. The right to resume any land required for mining or public purposes, on payment for the same at the rate of £3 per morgen and compensation for wood, water and improvements, to be determined, if necessary, by arbitration.

5. The grantee to occupy his land within a period of five months after the date of notice of the grant being given to him by the Administrator, and to continue in occupation by himself or by some European substitute, duly approved of by the Company's representative.

Precautions have been taken by the Administrator to stamp out the diseases known as lung-sickness and foot-and-mouth disease, which have appeared in Mashonaland, probably brought into the country by colonial and other

oxen. Stringent measures have been taken in Bechuana-land to prevent the spread of the disease. No effective remedy has been found for horse-sickness, similar to that known in the Cape Colony and Transvaal, but with the advance of civilization it will doubtless gradually disappear here as it has done elsewhere. It is the low country adjoining the high veldt that is so much subject to this awkward disease, so expensive and annoying to travellers.

This is not the place to refer to Northern Zambesia, except in the very briefest terms. Apart from the treaty made with the chief of the Barotze, and with the majority of the lesser chiefs between the Barotze and Nyassaland, the African Lakes Company and the missionaries, who had been besieged by Arabs and subjected to annoyance at the hands of the Portuguese, have had their property confirmed and are continuing the development of Nyassaland. Mr. H. H. Johnston, who early in 1891 was appointed Imperial Commissioner for Nyassaland, also acts as Administrator of the Company's sphere of operations north of the Zambesi, the expense of administration, involving an expenditure of £10,000 per annum, being defrayed by the Company. Mr. Johnston has raised and equipped an Indian police force, established regular postal service, and has taken steps aiming at the development of the resources of the territories under his administration, of which an endeavour to break up the power of the slave-traders in that region is the most important, as it is the most difficult.

The Company's operations include the whole of the British sphere north of the Zambesi, except Nyassaland, placed under the control of an Imperial Commissioner. In 1889 three missions were despatched by the British South Africa Company; one under Mr. Lochner to the

King of the Barotze, whose territory extends from the Portuguese province of Angola, over about 225,000 square miles; another under the African traveller, Mr. Joseph Thomson, whose health unfortunately was greatly impaired by this expedition, to the chiefs north of the Zambesi between the Barotze and Nyassaland; the third under Dr. Jameson, now Administrator of Mashonaland, to Gungunyane, the King of Gazaland. Friendly relations were established, and several valuable concessions, securing trading and mineral rights, as well as considerable tracts of territory, were obtained. It is intended to open up communication with Barotzeland from Nyassa in the first instance, and later from Mashonaland.

The total extent of the British South Africa Company's territory, south and north of the Zambesi, is estimated at about 750,000 square miles, an area exceeding that of France, Germany, Austria, and Italy combined. A considerable part of this region consists of plateau lands lying at an elevation of from 4000 to 4500 feet. On these highlands the climate is healthy and well suited to Europeans, and the country generally is well adapted for pastoral and agricultural purposes.

Although three years have elapsed since the occupation of Mashonaland by the British South Africa Company, the very severe and protracted rains in 1890-91 prevented much being accomplished until the summer of 1891, when the general conditions of the country were greatly improved, and food, clothing, shelter, and medicines, were poured into the country. Since then, public buildings for the Administration have been erected; the Standard Bank (the leading South African banking institution) has established a branch; hotels and stores are plentiful;

telegraphic communication *via* the Southern route is working well to all parts of the globe; and the line to connect Salisbury with Nyassa is being pushed forward. A good mail and passenger service to the East coast, with comfortable fast coaches, has been established between Umtali (in Manika) and Salisbury, thence connecting with the present termination of the Beira Railway near Chimoyo. Townships have been laid out at Salisbury, Victoria, and Umtali (in Manika), the first sale of "stands" (building sites) at these towns in July 1892 realizing £10,000. Administrative districts, presided over by magistrates, have been formed in Tuli, Victoria, Umtali, Salisbury, and Hartley. Mining commissioners and medical officers are stationed in all mining districts, and justices of the peace and "field-cornets" in the sub-districts. Missionaries of various denominations have established themselves throughout the country, including the Church of England, Roman Catholic Church, Wesleyans, Dutch Reformed Church, and the Salvation Army. Good hospitals have been established at Salisbury, Umtali, Tuli and Victoria, and are in efficient working order.

Regarding the gold industry, on which the future of the country so largely depends, especially in its early stage, the extent of gold-bearing formation, upon which systematic active development is being carried on, is upwards of 27,000 square miles, the six gold-fields being as follows:—

Victoria District, area of 70 miles long by 20 broad.

Manika	"	"	50	"	"	14	"
Hartley Hill	"	"	40	"	"	30	"
Mazoe	"	"	40	"	"	30	"
Lo Magondi	"	"	30	"	"	25	"
Salisbury	"	"	undetermined.				

Mashonaland is a country with gold-reefs in all directions. Over 25,000 mining claims have been registered, and on over 4000 of these the reefs have been partially tested by shafts and cross-cuts. It is stated on official authority that reefs have been tested at depths of between 200 and 300 feet below the surface, proving their permanence, and that, as a rule, the reefs at the lower depths maintain the yield obtained on the surface, and in some cases give even higher results. In other cases, where it was at one time feared that the "ancient workings" had exhausted the gold, it is proved that the richness of the reefs continues far below the depths which had been obtained by the early miners.

Here it may be mentioned that, though expert opinion was unfavourable in the early stages of occupation, similar adverse opinion was expressed regarding the Randt (on which Johannesburg now stands), and this just before its development into an enormously valuable gold-field, now the third in any country of the world, and destined to take the first place, producing as follows :—

					Ounces won.
1887	...	...	...	...	23,125
1888	...	...	...	...	208,121
1889	...	...	...	...	411,557
1890	...	...	...	...	494,817
1891	...	...	...	...	729,238
1892	...	...	...	...	973,271

In addition to gold, other minerals have also been discovered, and several claims marked out on reefs showing silver, copper, blende, tin, antimony, arsenic, and lead, while deposits of nitrate of potassium, plumbago, and coal have also been found.

It is believed that the gold-belt starting from Umtali, in Manika, passes through Victoria, and will in all probability connect with the gold-belt stretching eastward from the Tati Gold Fields in the south-western portion of Matabeleland, on which considerable development has taken place.

The Salisbury District was only discovered in the early part of the present year. The reefs begin within fifteen miles of Salisbury. The present Administrator of Mashonaland has reported that five parallel lines of reef are exposed, some of them very rich indeed, and that they evidently form a portion of the Mazoe belt in a direct line eastward, and still further east join the Enterprise series of reefs, and from there continue another seventy miles to the north-east up to the Pote Gold Fields,—another recent find.

Other more recent discoveries are at Mount Darwin, about eighty miles north of Mazoe; at points a hundred and twenty miles north of Umtali (Manika), and eighty miles south of the same place; on the Tokwe River, about thirty miles west of Victoria, and in the commonage at Umtali, described by the Administrator as being phenomenally rich.

While the gold-formations at the places just mentioned are all very extensive, show visible freely, and give very rich pannings, they cannot be said to be in any sense developed at present.

Owing to the enormous cost of transport, prior to the opening of the Beira Railway in October last, very few machines, and these small and imperfect, are at present in the country, and it must be borne in mind that the quartz from which a large portion of the gold has been obtained was crushed by "dollies" worked by hand. Returns show,

however, that the average yield of gold per ton is high. The total output reported to April 12 1893 was 2312 ozs., and many thousand tons of rich ore were at grass awaiting crushing. Taking an individual district, a report from the Mining Commissioner shows that at Victoria, up to the end of October 1892, 535 tons 10 cwts. of quartz, taken from all reefs, good and bad together, yielded 490 ozs. 18 dwts. 14 grs. of gold, while, he adds, considerable allowance should be made for gold absorbed during the setting of the plates. This gives an average yield per ton for the district of 18·3 dwts., or about 73s. Experience has, however, it is stated, shown that even under the present disadvantageous conditions, mining operations can be carried on in Mashonaland at a cost not exceeding 20s. per ton, leaving the very handsome profit of 53s. on every ton crushed in the Victoria district.

In a telegram received from the Administrator on his return from a tour of inspection of the various districts in May last he states that new finds were daily occurring, and that crushings were everywhere successful; that the reefs were improving with depth, and that most satisfactory development was proceeding in every direction.

The importance of railway communication is fully recognized, and the overland railway from the south, the main line of which will run through Matabeleland, and the Beira Railway from the east coast, are both being pushed forward. The southern line is now being extended from Vryburg to Mafeking, while the eastern road, whose terminus is near Chimoyo, will be carried forward another section after the rains.

The Beira Railway (just opened), seventy-five miles in length, so necessary towards the development of the country,

especially the gold industry, will also aid greatly in enabling the present difficulty with the Matabele to be satisfactorily settled. The value of good supplementary communication to the east, 380 miles in length, in place of 1690 miles to the south, is self-evident. But the disadvantages of the eastern route must not be lost sight of. This railway has to traverse the low country comprised in the Mozambique Company's territory lying between Beira and the healthy uplands of Mashonaland. Rapid communication through this low region of fever and the tsetse-fly to the healthy highlands at Manika is therefore necessary. The southern railway route, on the other hand, will run throughout over high, healthy country—an enormous advantage.

Beira at present consists of a few temporary buildings, at the mouth of the Pungwe River, some distance above the confluence of the Busi, and north-east of Massique Point. It has an anchorage protected from the violence of the breakers by a sandbank, with a depth of thirty to forty feet, and is buoyed so as to enable the entrance of large vessels to be made with safety.

The section of the line now open covers the greater portion of the "fly-belt," which is such a serious obstacle to transport.

The line, with a gauge of only two feet (the weight of rails twenty pounds per yard, the steepest gradient 1 in 50, and the sharpest curve one of four chains), can merely be considered in the light of a pioneer railway, which it is intended to be, and will, ere long, be altered into a broader gauge suitable to the traffic which is certain to spring up, and to the needs of a country like Mashonaland. The present line may, in fact, be considered a "service road," by which material will hereafter be brought up for the

construction of a more permanent line which in places will doubtless follow an improved alignment.

The first thirty miles, passing through country flooded at times in the rainy season, is being improved, and it is hoped that next year's floods will, at the most, merely cause a temporary suspension of traffic. The cost per ton from Beira to Salisbury is about £20, against £45 from the Cape, and this will probably be further reduced when another section is opened.

The low-lying country in the Mozambique Company's territory between Fontesvilla and the Chiruve Hills, a distance of thirty miles, is exceedingly unhealthy, and it is impossible, if staying for any length of time in this section, to escape fever. Elsewhere, with the ordinary rules of sanitation and moderation closely observed, health can be maintained.

From the Chiruve Hills towards Chimoyo is picturesque. In the distance, towards the north, are the mountains of Gorongoza, and near at hand, southwards, is the range forming the watershed between the Pungwe' and Busi rivers. From Chimoyo towards Massi Kessi the country becomes more hilly, and, in addition to the hills already mentioned, are seen on the north the highlands of Makombi's country, to the west the Manika ranges, and to the south the elevated tract on which are situated the kraals of the chiefs, Mforga and Gomani. Massi Kessi (merely a trading station of the Portuguese Mozambique Company) lies in a valley at the foot of the Manika plateau slope, about thirty-five miles from Umtali, the Company's chief town in Manika.

The country through which the railway runs is considered suitable for growing cereals of all kinds, especially mealies,

coffee, tea, sugar-cane, and at present produces wild coffee, Kaffir corn, tobacco, vegetables of all kinds; sheep and goats are the ordinary live stock of the natives, while the oxen that have been at Chimoyo are reported to do well there.

No more graphic report of the material progress made in Mashonaland can be obtained than the files of *The Rhodesia Herald*, a weekly paper published at Fort Salisbury. Its advertisement columns bear evidence that the material wants of the community are well catered for, and that capital is being invested on a considerable scale, proving that the trading community has confidence in the future of the country.

CHAPTER VII

THE WAR

Responsibility for the war—The Company's *personnel* on the spot—The British forces—Our ally Khama—Tati—The Matabele organization—The Matabele army—Matabele war-dance—The war-party—Period for operations—Progress of the war—Flight of King Lo Bengula.

THE responsibility for the war rests neither with the British South Africa Company nor with Lo Bengula. The blame lies with the "war-party" in Matabeleland—in other words the "matjaka," the young unmarried soldiery, who have been at all times impatient of control by their indunas, or chiefs, and even by the King himself. There has been from the first on the part of the High Commissioner (Sir Henry Loch), Mr. Rhodes, and Dr. Jameson, prudence, patience, and skill in the conduct of our relations with the Matabele, with the view of averting collision so long as it could be avoided or postponed. Lo Bengula has, however, throughout been subject to circumstances which occasionally overmaster the very ablest and most powerful of rulers—the will of the people; in Matabeleland that of the military hierarchy, of which the most dangerous section, again, is the "matjaka." I well recollect when the Pioneer Expedition started on its journey to effect the occupation of Mashonaland, it was a matter of grave doubt whether Lo Bengula would be able to control the "war-party," and

the situation at various times during the progress of the Pioneers was undoubtedly critical. He had no desire to fight; not that he was particularly friendly to the Expedition, but he understood the strength of the white man and the inevitable result of collision. He had a most difficult part to play to retain his seat on the throne, his head upon his shoulders; and, in order to accomplish this, he was obliged to manage the matjaka with great tact and adroitness. Any symptom of either yielding or wavering might at any second have cost him his life. At last, three years after the occupation of Mashonaland, the "matjaka" obtained the upper hand, and forced what was practically a declaration of war. That my view as to the "matjaka" is well founded is borne out by what Sir Sidney Shippard, the Administrator of Bechuanaland, wrote in 1888 on the condition of Matabeleland, when on a mission to Buluwayo:—

"Lo Bengula's power of restraining the matjaka is said by those best acquainted with the country to be greatly diminished within the last few years. The older indunas, the companions of his boyhood, are said to be still devoted to their chief, but the younger regiments, many of which can boast of no Zulu blood, and consist entirely of 'maghole,' *i.e.* slave-boys or captives taken in war, and trained up to become matjaka, are said to be anything but loyal to Lo Bengula. It is impossible to forecast the future in such a country as this. A matjaka rebellion, attempted revolution, and civil war appear to me to be not unlikely. . . . Some of the older Matabele indunas and indodas are confessedly sick of carnage, and desire nothing so much as a peaceful government with security for life and property, not to be obtained under the present *régime*; but the restless and bloodthirsty matjaka are perpetually craving for the fresh slaughter of helpless victims, who attempt no resistance, and make but feeble efforts to escape by flight or by betaking themselves to hiding-places, and Lo Bengula dare not withstand the impetuosity of his troops, even if he would."

With reference to the Company's *personnel* on the spot, it has been my lot, both as a Government official and as special war-correspondent, to witness European military operations against native races in various parts of the world, and I am therefore in a position to bear testimony to the magnificent fighting qualities and spirit animating both officers and men of the Company's forces and the Imperial Bechuanaland Border Police. In the person of Mr. Selous, as scout or intelligence officer, the Company's forces possess "eyes and ears" of the very greatest value, and indispensable to those officers—Jameson, Forbes, Willoughby, Goold-Adams—in whose hands—under the supreme direction of Mr. Rhodes—is vested the conduct of the campaign, ably seconded by such men as Major Alan Wilson, Captain Lendy, Commandant Raaf, Lieutenant Biscoe, and other officers. Dr. Jameson, the present Administrator of Mashonaland, is admirably fitted, by reason of his singular knowledge and grasp of the Matabele character and policy, to deal with the present critical position of affairs. Major Forbes, I felt sure, from his decision of character, his general capacity, his previous experience in Zululand and elsewhere in South Africa, as well as the three years he has passed in Mashonaland, would prove to be of the greatest service. Major Sir John Willoughby has travelled in the neighbouring territories, in addition to possessing an intimate knowledge of Mashonaland. Major Goold-Adams has served many years with the Bechuanaland Police, knows the southern Matabele frontier well, and, having accompanied Sir Sidney Shippard to Buluwayo in 1888, is one of the few military men who have visited Lo Bengula's capital.

According to the latest official reports from South Africa,

the forces and auxiliaries at the disposal of the Company are approximately as follows :—

Company's mounted men in columns	...	...	...	900
Company's infantry, field and garrison artillery	...	...	...	200
Imperial Bechuanaland Police	...	...	...	500
Volunteers with Imperial Police	...	...	...	300
Khama's mounted levies	...	...	...	200
Khama's foot levies	...	...	...	1500
				<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	3600

Mounted soldiers, whether cavalry proper, mounted infantry, or bodies of "irregular horse"—consisting of the settlers in their workaday clothing, with their ordinary hunting weapons and horse accoutrements—have always played a prominent part in South African border warfare. At the present time it is satisfactory to learn that the Company's forces are practically all mounted, and that some of the auxiliaries furnished by our ally, Khama, are horsemen. It will be readily understood that the South African pioneers, many of them expert hunters, already possess a training eminently fitting them for the work of bush-fighting in a difficult country.

The plan of operations adopted seems to have been worked with great success. Briefly, it was to mass at the southern base a sufficient body of men to divert the attention of the Matabele, and make them divide their forces, a junction of all our troops being effected at Buluwayo.

The Beira Railway, recently opened to Chimoyo, is an element of the greatest importance in the present situation, furnishing a route which will naturally powerfully supplement the southern approach to Salisbury. This will be

very readily apparent when I mention that the respective distances from Salisbury to either base are:—

	Miles.
To Beira	380—of which 305 are waggon road and 75 rail.
To Cape Town	1690—of which about 916 are waggon and 774 rail.

Further, it must be noted that the eastern or Beira line is subject to no possible interruption or interference at the hands of the Matabele, whereas the whole waggon-road from the south is liable to be outflanked at any moment.

Special mention must be made of our ally Khama, the chief of the Bamangwato tribe, who is a Christian, and the most enlightened and civilized of South African rulers. His character is a fine one—firm, just, and earnest in the desire to raise his people. The Christianity of Khama is eminently practical; he acts as he preaches. He holds most decided views on the use of intoxicants, and no wine or liquor of any description is allowed to be sold anywhere throughout his territory; even the brewing of the comparatively harmless Kafir beer is, without exception, heavily punished. Khama feels so strongly on this question that he once expressed the opinion that he “feared the Matabele less than brandy.” He wrote in a remarkable despatch in 1888, “Lo Bengula never gives me a sleepless night, but to fight against drink is to fight against demons, not against men. I dread the white man’s drink more than all the assegais of the Matabele, which kill men’s bodies and is quickly over; but drink puts devils into men, and destroys both bodies and souls

for ever. Its wounds never heal." A proof of Khama's humanity may be given. Some four years ago, when the seat of government was moved from Shoshong to Palapye, to secure better water and a more advantageous site, all the old and infirm were carefully removed from the old capital—a most un-African method of dealing with the aged who, regarded as an encumbrance, are left to shift for themselves. Mr. Hepburn, the missionary, has been for the past twenty-five years with the most satisfactory results the devoted guide and friend of the Bamangwato. Seated under some shady tree in his "sigadhlo" (an enclosure where court is held), Khama is always accessible to his poorest subject, and is prompt and wise in his decisions. He can muster over seven thousand fighting men, of whom about a thousand are armed with rifles, and he has some two hundred mounted men, not uniformed in any way, of whom he is very proud. His men cannot be counted upon as very reliable fighting-material, for the Bamangwato are not a warlike race; but among them will be found very useful auxiliaries, especially for scouting purposes. They did excellent work on the Pioneer Expedition, under the guidance of Selous, when we entered Mashonaland in 1890.]

Ninety miles north of Palapye, through a rolling country at present uninhabited, is Tati, a small mining settlement, where are situated the gold reefs belonging to the Tati Gold Mining Company. It stands on the main road into Matabeleland, and is the border town between that country and Khama's possessions, close to the northern border of what is known as "the disputed territory." Its natural position and recent occupation by the Bechuanaland border police make it a point of importance. Some hundred and

twenty miles north of Tati, through well-watered and splendid agricultural country, about four thousand feet above sea-level, is situated the Matabele capital, Buluwayo. It is from Tati that the Imperial police, under Major Goold-Adams, with Khama's auxiliaries, co-operated with the Company's columns, a junction having been effected at the Matabele capital.

The Matabele are divided into three classes, which has prevented the unification of the people into a powerful nation or tribe, as follows :—

1. *Abezansi*.—Original tribe who came from Zululand with Umsiligazi or their descendants.

2. *Abemhla*.—Original Bechuanas, taken captive by Umsiligazi on his entry into Matabeleland.

3. *Maholi*.—Captives from neighbouring tribes (*Mashonas, Makalakas, Barotze, etc.*) taken on their raids.

The *Abezansi*, and even the *Abemhla*, are supposed not to marry out of their own class; the *Maholi* are slaves, but practically they are absorbed into the Matabele, though held naturally in far less account than the other two, especially the first.

The country is divided into four great sections, forming territorial divisions, under four chief *Indunas*, named :

(1) *Amabuto*, (2) *Amagapa (Egapa)*, (3) *Amhlope*, (4) *Amakanda*.

In every division are a certain number of *kraals*, each of which has one or more *indunas*, according to their size. A *kraal* bearing the name of a regiment forms its headquarters, the war-shields and assegais being kept in a hut in the centre. *Kraals* are placed near water and wood, and when the timber has been cleared for miles around, or the water and pasturage becomes insufficient, the *kraal* is burnt

and another established in a fresh place. Thus they are moved every ten years or so, the present Buluwayo being some eighteen miles north of the position the capital once occupied.

The army, according to the most reliable estimates, may be taken at 15,000 divided into about twenty regiments of something like 750 each. New regiments are formed when there are sufficient men of a class able to wield the assegai, permission being then granted to build a kraal with the regimental title.

The soldiers are supposed to marry by regiments, and only when they have arrived at a certain age, or have distinguished themselves in the field. Then they are allowed to wear the head-ring Zulu-fashion (formed by working the hair with a certain gum and grease into an oval ring), while the "moutcha," or long fringe-apron, worn by the girls, is replaced by the dressed-hide petticoat of the matron. But in recent times the head-ring has been worn by young men who have qualified neither by age nor service in the field, beyond, perhaps, some poor victim on a Mashona raid—some old man, woman, or child—who has fallen to their assegai.

Their war-formation is similar to the Zulus: they deploy into a crescent, and try to outflank the enemy with the two horns, being about eight to ten deep at the centre and four deep at the two extremities.

In 1890 Lo Bengula invited the English envoys (despatched by her Majesty the Queen) to visit his royal kraal and witness the "war-dance," one of the great sights of South Africa, which, at my request, was described in an accurate and graphic manner by Major Gascoigne, who accompanied the envoys, and whose description I have utilized.

First came a parade or review of the Imbizu regiment, which numbers about six hundred men, who were in undress; namely, they carried no shields, assegais, or ostrich-feathers, but wore their usual aprons of leopard, grey monkey, or tiger-cat skin, with a circle of jackal tails dangling from their waistbelts. Round their legs were coils of brass and iron bangles, and most of them carried on their heads a jackal-tail, so worn that it stood straight up on one side of the head at the same angle as an English cavalry forage cap.

The dance commenced by the warriors rushing into the "sigadhlo," the Chief's inner or private kraal, in three companies. They then went through some curious manoeuvres which can be compared only to certain figures in a monster ballet. One division rushed from one side upon the remainder, meeting in the centre of the ground, and then retreating to their own side, performing wild and fantastic motions with extraordinary regularity. Then they formed one dense line with a front of one hundred men by six deep, and chanted wild praises of their Chief, stamping first one foot and then, after facing round, the other, always in perfect time and waving their arms and hands in unison. After about an hour of this incessant chanting and dancing, their "dance-sticks" (straight staves about three feet long, surmounted by jackals' tails) were given them by the attendants in the rear, and then, as one man, they kept waving them first to the right and then to the left, and thrusting them furiously at the ground in time with their song, the leg-bangles giving a loud crash as their feet came down. Hardly a man was under six feet in height, many being taller; all were in splendid condition, and showed magnificent physique. Every now and again some would bound

wildly into the air, always, however, maintaining perfect time with the others. Meanwhile, four huge, closely woven baskets were placed in front of the regiment, into which the Royal Hebes (slave-girls) poured many a calabash of Kafir beer, until the baskets, holding each many gallons, were filled to the brim. After two hours' dancing the men, heated with their exertions, were ordered to halt, and the induna in command, who had armed himself with a great "sjambok" (whip) of hippopotamus hide, gave the signal to commence drinking. In a moment each basket was surrounded by some two hundred warriors, emptied as hard as possible; then down came the sjambok, and they backed out to make room for others. Twice were the baskets emptied to the last drop before all had had their turn. Then they formed up in one large semicircle; and by special order chanted "The Upraised Shield," a war-song very seldom allowed to be sung, and which is very plaintive in its cadence. After this song was finished three large hunks of raw meat, the dismembered joints of three royal bullocks, were given to the men. In a minute all the beef was snatched up, but not without many a struggle over "prime cuts."

The following day there was a dance of the Inhlahlankela regiment, which differs from the Imbizu in being an "old" or "married" regiment, while in the latter all are young unmarried men, corresponding to a European sovereign's guards. There were about eight hundred men present. The dance was of much the same description as that of the Imbizu—both dances being excellent exhibitions of a perfect system of savage military drill and discipline, the result of the precepts taught the ancestors of the Matabeles many years ago by Chaka, that powerful Zulu chief who,

by his ferocious deeds in warfare, gained for himself the sobriquet of "Bloody."

On the Big Dance day eight hundred bullocks were distributed among the troops, and at once killed for use on the morrow, as on that day, the "Feast of Purification," no shedding of blood is allowed, and all the warriors bathe in the river early in the morning. This festival might also be called "The Feast of First-Fruits," for then the Chief first tastes or partakes of the new crops.

The next day orders were sent out to the kraals for a general parade. The troops, who were divided into several large divisions—Buluwayo, Ikapa, Inxobo, Amabuti, Amakuda, Manjama, and Mahlope—marched on to the ground in round numbers nine to ten thousand strong. They looked extremely well, with their head-dresses of ostrich feathers, which covered the back of their heads like helmets, and streamed over both shoulders. All had the national kilts, formed of skins and tails, hanging from their waists, and above their calves were fringes of long white hair. In the left hands they carried a large elliptical shield of oxhide and their assegais, in the right the "dance-sticks," with which, about every third step, they struck their shields, keeping time with their song.

After marching round the ground, they formed one solid line four deep and a thousand yards long, the flanks inclining into an arc. The induna of each division had so told off his men that they appeared to be in companies as distinguished by their shields. First came a company with black shields, followed by others coloured black and white, all white, nearly all black, and red. The general effect produced was excellent. Once in a line, all the warriors chanted the national-dance chorus, stamped furiously with

their feet, and rattled their metal leglets, every now and then striking their shields with the sticks, and keeping perfect time together. As a dance the spectacle was not equal to that given by the Imbizu, for then each man did his best, being personally under the eye of the Chief. But as a large parade of a mass of savage warriors it was a very fine sight indeed. Presently thirty-six of Lo Bengula's wives, gaudily arrayed in blue skirts, and bright orange sheets worn over the shoulder, appeared. Each carried many pounds' weight of bright beads, and had the hair decked out with the royal feathers of the blue jay. They filed slowly from their own quarters on to the parade, and then, breaking up into groups of four and five, they slowly paced up and down before the troops with a peculiar gait, all the while chanting and waving supple wands. Lo Bengula was too gouty to leave his bath-chair, and, covered with streaks of medicine paint, sat facing the centre of the line. In the background were thousands of spectators. Then the sacred black oxen were driven past, and, at a given signal, the whole line charged furiously up to the chief and the line of spectators, at the same time shouting loudly "corn." According to the national custom, the troops now moved to drive all the sacred oxen into the veldt and back again. While this was done, the black clouds which had threatened thunder burst into a heavy storm, and the spectators all retired for shelter. But in an hour out came the sun again, and the men, who had re-formed line, chanted and brandished their assegais and sticks as before, and every now and then some old warrior would rush out of the ranks, and, feigning to kill a foe with his assegai, would shout out a vivid description of his former prowess in war. This went on for two hours, when the

men were dismissed to their camps, to feast and make merry.

One interesting ceremony had on this occasion to be omitted, owing to Lo Bengula's illness—namely, the rehearsal of a declaration of war, when the king was wont to march out into the open plain, and then, hurling his assegai in the direction of the enemy's country, his young soldiers would follow, stabbing the ground in like manner, to signify that wherever he led them they would go.

The progress of the campaign seems to me to indicate that Lo Bengula has been powerless to control the "matjaka," and therefore has found himself unable to prevent attack by the Matabele impis upon our forces in the open. As anticipated, the Matabele have employed, almost exclusively, the assegai and stabbing spear, their national weapons; the thousand breech-loaders, of which a good deal had been heard, having seemingly hardly been brought into use.

The Matabele are not all warriors. They possess much of the raw material of a peaceful and hard-working people; and a certain proportion has already tasted the sweets of justice and regular payment of wages in the Transvaal and even in Mashonaland. But at present the flower of the nation is locked up in the military system prevailing in the country. Once this caste is broken up, the more peaceable and industrious elements will detach themselves and settle down. I have already expressed this opinion through the medium of the press, and, although a contrary view in quarters deserving of attention is held, I would strongly reiterate it here.

There is also a feeling abroad which finds expression in a certain section of the press that the main object of

the military operations now being carried out is to drive away the whole Matabele nation to the north of the Zambesi. Such a policy is impossible of execution in my opinion, and even if it were feasible, the establishment of a standing menace north of the Zambesi would prove most highly disadvantageous to the Company's territory south of that river as well as that controlled by the British Commissioner in Nyassaland. It must be borne in mind that a military campaign in the very difficult, remote, and less healthy region north of the Zambesi would prove a very different task to that of coping with the Matabele where they now are, namely, in the adjacent open healthy tableland, and with several practicable roads into the country. Merely to remove, or rather hide away, the present difficulty by such a policy would be most unwise, from purely military reasons. There is, however, another consideration, an economic one of the highest importance.

The future prosperity of the country depends chiefly upon two things—efficient transport and sufficient labour. White mining labour alone, it must be remembered, is out of the question. Even at Johannesburg and Kimberley the mines would have to close to-morrow if native labour were not available. Fortunately Mr. Rhodes' past record in dealing with difficult situations warrants the belief that he will successfully overcome the present one.

A most important feature in the present situation is the time of the commencement of the rainy season, which varies considerably. As a general rule this period extends from November to April, and during this time field-operations for Europeans would be rendered impossible, while the Matabele would merely be hampered. The rains would render the movement of our necessary transport

and supplies almost impossible—though the pioneers in Mashonaland are mostly men who are inured to hardship, and not to be daunted by any ordinary obstacles or difficulties—and sickness would be great. The Matabele would be able to move about, though I must correct the erroneous impression that they could operate as well in the rainy as in the dry season, for such is not the case. As a matter of fact, the Matabele impis have hitherto avoided military operations in the rains. In a matter of a life and death struggle, however, they could, and undoubtedly would, fight in the rainy season. It is obvious that, armed merely with the assegai and stabbing spear, and subsisting on herds of driven cattle, they can afford to disregard the rains in a manner which their European antagonists cannot.

The war now in progress was caused by the Matabele, who were in considerable force, raiding the Mashonas in the neighbourhood of Victoria, and assegaiing natives and servants of the white settlers, even within the streets of the township. On the 18th of July Dr. Jameson, the Administrator of Mashonaland, authorized the employment of force to drive back these raiders, and this was successfully accomplished.

Victoria was thus relieved from all immediate danger of attack, but Lo Bengula continued to keep his impis close by, and a patrol of the British South Africa Company's police were fired on not far from that station. It then became apparent to Sir Henry Loch, the High Commissioner, that it was impossible to hope for a restoration of friendly relations between the Company and Lo Bengula, especially as he would not abandon his claim to have handed over to him the Mashona men and women who had sought the

protection of the Company, who, if given up, would either have been put to death or reduced to slavery. Dr. Jameson was then formally authorized by the High Commissioner, as soon as his preparations permitted of his doing so, to force back the Matabele impis to a safe distance from the neighbourhood of Victoria, and also to take any other measures he might consider necessary for the safety of the lives and property of those residing within his administrative authority.

It was accordingly arranged that a column, under Major Forbes, should move from Fort Charter, and one from Victoria, under Captain Alan Wilson, and form a junction at Indaima's kraal, the combined force, under the supreme command of Major Forbes, being then accompanied by Dr. Jameson, with Sir John Willoughby, who would advise generally as regards military operations. From Indaima's kraal an advance was to be made along the high veldt by what is known as the Selous Road, towards the capital, Buluwayo.

On the 5th of October a party of the Imperial Bechuanaland border police was fired upon by a large party of Matabele in country claimed by Khama, and under the direct administration of the High Commissioner, who was thus confirmed in his belief that Lo Bengula was massing his principal impis at Mangwe and Buluwayo, with the intention of occupying Tati, as, by holding that district, he would threaten the flank of the Bechuanaland border police position at Macloutsie, and have Khama's county open before him.

Major Goold-Adams, the commandant, was therefore ordered, after providing for the security of Macloutsie, to occupy the Tati district with his small but well-equipped

force, supported by a number of Khama's men, led by that chief in person.

The Company had two hundred mounted men at Tuli under Commandant Raaf, and it was arranged that they should be placed as a contingent under Major Goold-Adams' command, the Company paying all expenses in connection with their own men.

On the 22nd of October the combined Forts Charter and Victoria columns bivouacked on the Gwalo River, and moving on the next day, arrived that night, after a hard day's march, on the banks of the Shangani River, which they crossed, and then entered a country infested with Matabele, in which they had to march with great caution. At length, on the 25th of October, Lo Bengula's force, consisting of eight regiments, numbering five thousand men, of whom some, it is reported, were armed with rifles, attacked the laager, but were repulsed after twenty minutes' hard fighting. A second attack was made an hour later, but the Matabele, after advancing steadily to within one hundred and fifty yards of the laager, fell back before the fire of the Maxim guns, from which they suffered severely. At length the Matabele broke and fled to cover in the bush. Mounted men were at once sent to clear them out, and the whole impi was soon in full flight. Although the fighting did not last long, the losses of the Matabele were severe. Five hundred warriors killed or wounded were left on the field. The loss of the Chartered force was two killed and six wounded.

When the fight was over, and the troopers had ascertained that the road was clear, the columns broke up the laager and moved on towards Buluwayo, which was thirty-five miles distant from the scene of the encounter.

Major Forbes reported that the steadiness of the troops was admirable, considering they were mostly composed of young Cape colonists who were under fire for the first time.

On the 15th of October Major Goold-Adams and Commandant Raaf started with their columns from the Shashi River, and, under the guidance of Mr. Selous, marched by a circuitous route in a north-westerly direction towards Buluwayo. The force, consisting of three hundred men of the Bechuanaland police, with the garrison of Fort Tuli, under Commandant Raaf, and seventeen hundred of Khama's men.

On the morning of the 2nd November, when in the vicinity of Ramabekwan, about forty-five miles to the south-west of Lo Bengula's kraal, two impis of the Matabele (one of which was under the command of the chief Gambo, son-in-law of Lo Bengula), armed with guns, assegais, and spears, made a furious attack. The first onslaught was repelled by the Bechuanaland police, but the enemy soon rallied, and a spirited action followed. The chief Gambo was wounded, and the loss of the Matabele was estimated at about two hundred. The enemy were pursued, and ultimately fled to the hills for refuge. Mr. F. C. Selous was wounded while defending a transport waggon, two Englishmen and four natives were killed, and two Englishmen and eight natives wounded.

Meanwhile, on the 1st November, the Forts Victoria and Charter columns had closely invested Buluwayo on three sides, and on the 2nd opened fire upon it with their seven-pounders. The cluster of rudely formed structures, which have served as the king's palace, court-room, and fortress, were soon a burning mass of ruins, and in a few hours a heap of smouldering ashes was all that remained of the kraal.

Lo Bengula fled in the direction of the Gwai River.

CHAPTER VIII

PROGRESS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOLD AND DIAMOND FIELDS

A modern Ophir—Gold in the Orange Free State—The “bankét” beds—Gold in Zululand—Discovery of gold in the South African Republic (Transvaal)—The De Kaap Fields—Witwatersrand—Rapid progress of Johannesburg—Mining plant—Great field for British enterprise—Treatment of “tailings”—Output of gold from South Africa—Discovery of diamonds—De Beer’s consolidation—Kimberley—Mr. Rhodes’ model village of Kenilworth—Conclusion.

NOTWITHSTANDING much past research, and the facts recently made available to us by the necessarily restricted examination of ancient remains of all kinds, we are not yet in a position to state definitely that the land of Ophir—the great El Dorado of the ancients—can be located even *somewhere* in the gold-producing territory of Africa south of the river Zambesi. There can, however, surely be no reasonable doubt whatever that a modern Ophir has been discovered, and is now being developed, in several parts of that territory.

The gold production of this region, already large and steadily increasing, warrants us in believing that, by the successful winning of what must be regarded as so much capital, an enormous impetus will be given, not only to the development of population and trade locally, but in

many other directions. In addition, as a vitally important factor, supplies of the more prosaic minerals, coal and iron, are abundant in South Africa.

At present the great gold-field of this portion of Africa is situated in the South African Republic, but before proceeding to describe it, brief mention may be made of some other fields in adjacent territory.

In the north of the Orange Free State indications of reef gold have been found, with improving prospects, as it has been definitely accepted that the southern fringe of the Witwatersrand Basin has been found cropping out within the State. Coal is found in the north and eastern parts.

The best salt in South Africa is produced at "Hagan's Pan" (twenty-five miles from Bloemfontein), which is two miles in diameter. Its produce is exported in large quantities to Johannesburg, where it is used in the chlorination works for the treatment of the auriferous oxides and sulphides.

Gold in quartz has been found in various parts of Zululand, and gold-mining gives promise of being a profitable industry. Development of the mining area has been hitherto retarded on account of want of capital, but companies have been formed in Natal and elsewhere. Recent accounts report the occurrence of auriferous "bankét" * or conglomerate deposits, eighteen inches to four feet thick, averaging over twelve dwts. per ton.

Silver, lead, copper, iron, coal and asbestos, have also

* "Bankét is the Dutch word for that delicacy of Dutch and other children—almond-rock. The conglomerate which carries the gold is a sort of almond-rock, with pebbles for almonds. The almonds and hardbake alike have at some period been soaked with gold—when, and how, is not certain."

been found in Zululand, but none of these have yet been worked.

The mountain ranges in Basutoland are said to be rich in mineral wealth, but have never been properly explored. Coal is abundant, and mines have been opened and worked ; but the jealousy of the chiefs and people have so far discouraged the scientific and practical exploration of the mineral wealth of the country.

The Dutch and other emigrants across the Vaal River to the lands now included in the territory of the South African Republic gave no thought to the discovery of gold. Their sole object was farming and stock-raising ; and when in the early fifties a find of the precious metal was reported, prospecting was forbidden under a penalty, as it was feared that an influx of "foreigners" might endanger the newly acquired independence of the country. In 1867, however, on the discovery of gold in the north of their country by a German named Mauch, the prohibition against prospecting was withdrawn and exploring encouraged.

Mauch's discoveries were followed by those of Button in 1869, in the tract between Leydenberg and the Letaba River. In 1872 the first gold laws were enacted, but digging for gold was carried on with varying success. Shortly afterwards, the discovery of the alluvial fields at Leydenberg was made, and gold-mining successfully carried on at Pilgrim's Rest and elsewhere. At this time but little reef-mining was attempted, and altogether no great success attended the search for gold ; by 1877 the population had dwindled down to a very small community.

During the period of the annexation (1877-1881), Sir J. Shepstone, the Administrator, engaged an Australian expert to make an examination of the most likely places for gold,

and he for some time actually worked near the Witwatersrand, and within sight of the "bankét" conglomerate beds which were, hereafter, to make the place for ever famous ; but, finding only comparatively barren quartz, abandoned the locality.

On the re-establishment of the Republic in 1881, the concession policy was introduced, under which the holders of land were granted rights to all minerals formerly claimed by the State.

The great De Kaap Fields date from their first discovery in 1882 and 1884, when a large area, subsequently much extended in the neighbourhood of the Kaap Plateau, was proclaimed a gold-field. The great Sheba mine was discovered in 1886, and a gold fever, which spread over all South Africa, was the result, causing an influx of men from all parts. By the beginning of 1887 it was estimated that ten thousand persons had entered the district. Wild speculation ensued ; many companies, bogus and others, were formed ; Barberton became the centre of operations, and soon expanded into a large town with hotels, stores, public buildings and many private houses.

Then came the counter-attraction of the Witwatersrand discoveries, where a more accessible field was available, in which the gold could be more easily and cheaply won, and now Barberton has a population of but two thousand souls.

The difficulties of working in a mountainous country are, however, being steadily overcome. Electrical power, generated by the adaptation of water as a prime mover, is being transmitted over large areas, and used for electrical winding-gear and other purposes. A branch line of railway now connects Barberton with the Delagoa Bay main line,

thus immensely cheapening the carriage of all imported mining appliances. The imported machinery and new appliances and processes for the treatment of "tailings" (ore from which the bulk of the gold has been extracted by milling and, in some cases, concentration) thus rendered easily available, will also doubtless increase the output of the De Kaap Fields, now about 70,000 ounces per annum. The total production for the six years from 1886 to the end of 1892 has been 287,792 ounces, valued at nearly £1,100,000 sterling. There have been some ninety-six companies floated on the De Kaap claims, with a nominal capital of £6,459,500, and a working capital of less than £1,000,000. At the present time only one-third of these companies are extant, and but a score of them show signs of life and activity.

The great auriferous "bankét" beds at Witwatersrand, thirty-five miles south of Pretoria—the capital of the South African Republic—were discovered in 1885 and specially pointed out to several persons; amongst others to a well-known mining expert who, after a somewhat cursory examination, discouraged the idea of their ever being payable or worthy of any serious attention. Test crushings were, however, subsequently made, which proved the payable nature of the "bankét" formation, and on the 20th of September 1886 the Witwatersrand was declared a public gold-field.

Farms, mere bare pasture lands of insignificant value, were eagerly bought up at prices ranging from £7000 to £70,000, whereas a few years before their value ranged from £350 to £750, and the entire number might have been purchased for £10,000.

One of the farms, being Government ground and having

a central position, was selected as a site for a town, now called Johannesburg, and which has since become the commercial centre of the Republic. Building lots, or "stands" as they are called, each about fifty feet square, were sold by auction on ninety years' leases, at prices which ranged from fifty shillings to £200 per stand. Within the present year some of these stands in the principal thoroughfares have sold for sums varying from £4000 to £7000.

At first the buildings erected in Johannesburg were of a temporary nature, but as soon as the permanency of the "bankét" beds and the possibilities of their wealth were established, permanent and in many cases palatial buildings arose on all sides, and there is now a population of about forty thousand souls, exclusive of natives, the taxable valuation of its immovable property being over £3,160,000. Johannesburg, healthily situated 5600 feet above sea-level, has grown as rapidly as any of the modern American cities, and can boast of three theatres, a public athletic ground, and two grand race-stands.

In 1888 the output of gold began with 7000 ounces per month, and by the end of June 1892 had advanced to 103,000 ounces per month, and the then completed five years of the gold industry showed a total output of 2,429,694 ounces, worth, roughly speaking, eight and a half millions sterling!

The best mining authorities believe that the accumulation of gold which is stored up in the underlying rocks of the Rand Basin, which is about one hundred and thirty miles long by thirty wide, *will last well into the next century.* The mineral wealth of the country is not confined to the Witwatersrand basin. Along its northern edge there is

some extent of auriferous country, and eastward throughout the Highveld there are metalliferous belts containing silver, copper and lead, and an extensive area of coal-beds.

It goes without saying that the mining plant now used is all of the most modern type and of the highest class. European miners are paid from £4 10s. to £6 per week, and mechanics, such as smiths, fitters, and carpenters, from £5 to £6. The native population working at the mines is estimated at *thirty-five thousand Kafirs*; earning as wages fifteen shillings weekly, with three shillings for maintenance.

For the supply of mining machinery there is very keen competition between English and American makers. In rock-drill plant America leads the way. In passing, attention is specially directed to the vast field for the employment of English-made machinery of all kinds, sure to result from the development of mining enterprise in the new territories of Zambesia. A valuable opportunity here presents itself, especially at the present period of restricted markets.

After the auriferous ore has been crushed, it is treated by the most modern processes for the recovery of the gold. Nothing is lost. The "tailings," which a few years ago would have been regarded as entirely waste material, are further subjected to various chemical processes (valuable patents, and their number is being constantly added to), so that practically there is no waste at all. Hereafter it *may* be found practicable in various parts of the British South Africa Company's territory to treat, by some of the modern scientific processes, the waste *débris* found around the ancient workings in the country, and recover gold therefrom in paying quantities.

An account of the condition and progress of the gold-fields in Mashonaland will be found in Chapter VI.

It may be of interest to conclude this necessarily brief account of the South African gold-fields by some abstract figures showing the value of gold exported to September 1892 by banking and mercantile establishments, through Cape Colony, Natal, and Delagoa Bay, as follows :—

1871	...	...	£	370	1890	...	...	£	1,856,800
1881	...	...	17,952		1891	...	...	2,901,470	
1886	...	...	134,760		1892	(9 months)		3,226,438	

THE discovery of diamonds in South Africa has been aptly stated to be the most important event that has occurred in that country since the first sighting of the Cape of Good Hope. The diamond industry has undoubtedly infused new life and energy through all the territories of Southern Africa, the enterprise and capital of Kimberley having so materially aided in developing the gold mines of the Transvaal.

The first diamond was discovered in March 1867 by Mr. O'Reilly in a remarkable manner. Resting for the night at a farmhouse in the Hopetown district of the Transvaal he noticed a lot of beautiful river pebbles on the table, out of which he picked a stone that from its colour had attracted his particular attention. Eventually it was sent to an expert at Grahamstown who pronounced it to be a diamond, weighing $21\frac{1}{4}$ carats and worth £500.

A search for further stones near the reported scene of this first discovery was at once made by Europeans and natives, but at first with small success. In 1869, however, Mr. Van Niekerk secured from a Griqua Hottentot a large

stone, for which he gave the sum of £400 or live-stock to about that amount. This stone, which weighed 83½ carats in the rough, was soon after sold for over £10,000. It now figures among the jewels of the Countess of Dudley, and is named "The Star of the South."

Towards the end of 1870 news came of the discovery of diamonds near where the town of Kimberley now stands, on the farms of Dutoitspan and Bultfontein. Early in 1871 a new digging was discovered about two miles distant from Dutoitspan, on a farm the property of one De Beer. In July 1871 the famous "Colesberg Kopje," or "De Beer's New Rush," as it was variously called, was discovered, and by a Government Proclamation issued in 1874 these diggings were converted into "mines" with the respective titles of "Dutoitspan Mine," "De Beer's Mine," and "Kimberley Mine."

The town of Kimberley is practically in the centre of the diamondiferous area contained in the square formed by the twenty-eighth and thirtieth parallels, and the twenty-fourth and twenty-sixth degrees of longitude, and from the mines in this area more than ninety per cent. of all the diamonds exported from South Africa have been raised. Situated 4042 feet above the sea, Kimberley still bears traces of the old mining camp out of which it has grown, but everywhere comfortable brick houses, furnished with every modern luxury, have supplanted the tents and galvanized iron huts of the old diggers. The absence of water—a want that was terribly felt in the early days of the settlement—has now been remedied by the Waterworks Company, who have brought in water from the Vaal River, a distance of some fourteen miles. This has made the planting of trees and orchards possible, and many portions

of the town and suburbs afford a pleasing prospect to those arriving from the rather monotonous journey through the arid Karroo. Kimberley enjoys direct main-line railway communication with the Cape, and the population, including that of the township of Beaconsfield also on the railway, about two miles to the north-west, numbered in 1891 some forty thousand persons.

The Kimberley mine was thrown open on the 21st July 1871, and since that day many modifications have been introduced, both in the technical processes of mining and in the consolidation of numberless claims and mines into what is practically one enormous undertaking—the De Beer's Consolidated Mines, Limited—brought about by the influence and business genius of Mr. Rhodes and Mr. Alfred Beit.

This vast combination has benefited many classes, and in fact saved the industry from internal wars of unhealthy competition, which threatened it most seriously. The diamond production of the world is controlled by it, and self-interest has ensured the working of this great monopoly in such a manner, that the actual workers, the miners on the spot, are well cared for in every way (*e.g.* Mr. Rhodes' model village of Kenilworth, a garden oasis of comfortable dwellings formed on what was once an arid plain, is one of the most striking examples of what this remarkable man has planned and accomplished), notwithstanding the restrictions to which the native labour has to be subjected.

It is, of course, a fact, that this great combination does not please every one on the spot, but the many benefits it has conferred upon the community in various directions appears to be a proof that its *general* results have been productive of much good. In this connection it should be

noted that the De Beer's Company have been able to back up the Imperial development to the north from the ever-growing resources at their command.

The world, as it grows more wealthy and more populous, will naturally spend more money upon diamonds, and there have been recent indications that China may prove a great market for the gem. At present the market appears to be able to take about four and a quarter million pounds' worth of diamonds per annum, and although it is difficult to obtain exact figures, the best available statistics show that, allowing ten per cent. (probably far below the actual figure) to have been illicitly exported, we have a total export from 1871 to the end of 1892 amounting to *seventy millions pounds sterling!*

CONCLUSION.

I have now endeavoured to lay before my readers a plain narrative of facts, having carefully avoided dealing with matters of high politics or finance, concerning which it is impossible for any one to write with advantage at the present moment. The whole situation is changing from day to day, and therefore anything that might be said on the subject would possess merely an academic interest, and have little practical value.

South Africa is rapidly growing into prominence and awakening a wider and wider interest. Ignored and neglected as a field for settlement so long, it is now on the way to being recognized as a country of marvellous and varied resources, assured of a brilliant future.

It has generally a healthy climate, where cloudless skies, continuous sunshine, and dry air can be enjoyed. The

western half and the south, away from the coast, have, 'tis true, a scanty rainfall, and the natural vegetable products are poor; but this is more than compensated for by its mineral wealth of all kinds, which is enormous, the deposits being varied and seemingly inexhaustible.

The diamond industry, which has produced from 1871 to 1892 close on £70,000,000, gave the first impetus to the gold industry in South Africa, which, in turn, has acted as a stimulus in all directions.

Already the third gold region in the world, it promises shortly to rank as the most productive (the output having risen from 34,000 ozs. in 1887 to 494,000 ozs. in 1890, and 1,056,000 ozs. for nine months of 1893). The potency of gold as an agency for effecting the development of a new country is magical, bringing with it the two essentials, capital and population. South Africa bids fair to repeat the past of Australia, whose advance was stimulated in such a wonderful degree by gold.

Its resources in coal, iron, copper, asbestos, salt and fire-clay are invaluable, and absolutely indispensable adjuncts to the gold industry.

The commerce of South Africa is already £35,000,000 per annum in imports and exports, and is destined to grow rapidly.

In the northern half of South Africa, especially that region known as Matabeleland, the rainfall is regular and sufficient, the altitude is such as to ensure health, and the soil well adapted in great part for agriculture. It is a country where the white man may hope to see his children grow up strong and healthy.

While the high table-land is suitable for the white man, the low-lying region to the east and in the Zambesi basin

can be developed by Indian coolie labour, well suited for plantation work. The two processes of colonization can therefore be carried forward simultaneously.

Matabeleland is the last high land south of the Zambesi suitable for European colonization, and invaluable as a field for the expansion of South Africa and Great Britain. Gold, which has Anglicized the Transvaal, will, by the settled administration which it brings in its train, open an area much wanted for the trekking disposition of the Boer, still strong.

The outlets for British trade and manufactures in the opening up of South Africa are of great value, for not only are there already fully established the gold and diamond industries, but this important fact has to be borne in mind, that South Africa is a country peculiarly requiring railway communication (the waterways being practically un navigable), which opens out such a vast field to British enterprise.

The internal progress made in Mashonaland, considering all the difficulties which had to be encountered, has been good, and the result of the present campaign will be to bring peace and security to our new colony, the first thing necessary towards further progress. A result which is surely owing in great measure to the sterling qualities of that handful of Pioneers who are successfully accomplishing this latest stage of our colonial expansion.

The gold wealth is there, and it only requires security and good communications to enable the country to make rapid progress.

I have firm faith in Mashonaland and Matabeleland, and I believe the colony founded in 1890, with settled government replacing a cruel and despotic barbarism, will yet be the home of hundreds of thousands of our fellow-countrymen.

APPENDICES



- I. CONCESSION BY LO BENGULA TO MESSRS. C. D. RUDD, MAGUIRE, AND THOMPSON. OCTOBER 30, 1888.
- II. ROYAL CHARTER GRANTED TO THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY. OCTOBER 15, 1889.
- III. ORDER IN COUNCIL AS TO ENGLAND'S AUTHORITY IN SOUTHERN ZAMBESIA. MAY 9, 1891.
- IV. ANGLO-PORTUGUESE CONVENTION. JUNE 11, 1891.
- V. GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PERSONS DESIROUS OF PROCEEDING TO MASHONALAND.

APPENDIX I

LO BENGULA'S CONCESSION TO MR. C. D. RUDD AND OTHERS

KNOW all men by these presents that whereas Charles Dunnell Rudd of Kimberley, Rochfort Maguire of London, and Francis Robert Thompson of Kimberley, hereinafter called the grantees, have covenanted and agreed, and do hereby covenant and agree, to pay to me, my heirs and successors, the sum of one hundred pounds sterling British currency, on the first day of every lunar month, and further to deliver at my Royal Kraal, one thousand Martini-Henry breech-loading rifles, together with one hundred thousand rounds of suitable ball cartridge, five hundred of the said rifles, and fifty thousand of the said cartridges to be ordered from England forthwith, and delivered with reasonable despatch, and the remainder of the said rifles and cartridges to be delivered so soon as the said grantees shall have commenced to work mining machinery within my territory, and further to deliver on the Zambesi River a steamboat with guns suitable for defensive purposes upon the said river, or in lieu of the said steamboat, should I so elect, to pay to me the sum of five hundred pounds sterling British currency, on the execution of these presents, I, Lo Bengula, King of Matabeleland, Mashonaland, and other adjoining territories, in the exercise of my sovereign powers, and in the presence and with the consent of my Council of Indunas, do hereby grant and assign unto the said grantees, their heirs, representatives, and assigns, jointly and severally, the complete and exclusive charge over all metals and minerals situated and contained in my kingdoms, principalities, and dominions, together with full power to do all things that they may deem necessary to win and procure the same, and to hold, collect, and enjoy the profits and revenues, if any, derivable from the said metals and

minerals subject to the aforesaid payment, and whereas I have been much molested of late by divers persons seeking and desiring to obtain grants and concessions of land and mining rights in my territories, I do hereby authorise the said grantees, their heirs, representatives, and assigns, to take all necessary and lawful steps to exclude from my kingdoms, principalities, and dominions all persons seeking land, metals, minerals, or mining rights therein, and I do hereby undertake to render them such needful assistance as they may from time to time require for the exclusion of such persons, and to grant no concessions of land or mining rights from and after this date without their consent and concurrence, provided that if at any time the said monthly payment of one hundred pounds shall be in arrear for a period of three months, then this grant shall cease and determine from the date of the last made payment, and further provided that nothing contained in these presents shall extend to or affect a grant made by me of certain mining rights in a portion of my territory south of the Ramakoban River, which grant is commonly known as the Tati Concession.

This given under my hand this thirtieth day of October in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and eighty-eight at my Royal Kraal.

his
(Signed) LO BENGULA X
mark.

C. D. RUDD,
ROCHFORD MAGUIRE,
F. R. THOMPSON.

Witnesses,
(Signed) CHAS. D. HELM,
J. D. DREYER.

Copy of indorsement on the original agreement.

I hereby certify that the accompanying document has been fully interpreted and explained by me to the Chief Lo Bengula and his full Council of Indunas, and that all the constitutional usages of the Matabele nation had been complied with prior to his executing the same.

Dated at Umgusa River this thirtieth day of October, 1888.

(Signed) CHAS. D. HELM.

APPENDIX II

ROYAL CHARTER GRANTED TO THE BRITISH SOUTH AFRICA COMPANY

VICTORIA by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith.

To all of whom these presents shall come, Greeting :

WHEREAS a Humble Petition has been presented to Us in Our Council by **THE MOST NOBLE JAMES, DUKE OF ABERCORN**, Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath ; **THE MOST NOBLE ALEXANDER WILLIAM GEORGE, DUKE OF FIFE**, Knight of the Most Ancient and Most Noble Order of the Thistle, Privy Councillor ; **THE RIGHT HONOURABLE EDRIC FREDERICK LORD GIFFORD, V.C.** ; **CECIL JOHN RHODES**, of Kimberley, in the Cape Colony, Member of the Executive Council and of the House of Assembly of the Colony of the Cape of Good Hope ; **ALFRED BEIT**, of 29, Holborn Viaduct, London, Merchant ; **ALBERT HENRY GEORGE GREY**, of Howick, Northumberland, **ESQUIRE** ; and **GEORGE CAWSTON**, of 18, Lennox Gardens, London, **ESQUIRE**, Barrister-at law.

AND WHEREAS the said Petition states amongst other things:—That the Petitioners and others are associated for the purpose of forming a Company or Association, to be incorporated, if to Us should seem fit, for the objects in the said Petition set forth, under the corporate name of the British South Africa Company.

That the existence of a powerful British Company, controlled by those of Our subjects in whom we have confidence, and

having its principal field of operations in that region of South Africa lying to the north of Bechuanaland, and to the west of Portuguese East Africa, would be advantageous to the commercial and other interests of Our subjects in the United Kingdom and in Our Colonies.

That the Petitioners desire to carry into effect divers concessions and agreements which have been made by certain of the chiefs and tribes inhabiting the said region, and such other concessions agreements grants and treaties as the Petitioners may hereafter obtain within the said region, or elsewhere in Africa, with the view of promoting trade, commerce, civilisation, and good government (including the regulation of liquor traffic with the natives) in the territories which are or may be comprised or referred to in such concessions agreements grants and treaties as aforesaid.

That the Petitioners believe that if the said concessions agreements grants and treaties can be carried into effect, the condition of the natives inhabiting the said territories will be materially improved and their civilisation advanced, and an organisation established which will tend to the suppression of the slave trade in the said territories, and to the opening up of the said territories to the immigration of Europeans, and to the lawful trade and commerce of Our subjects and of other nations.

That the success of the enterprise in which the Petitioners are engaged would be greatly advanced if it should seem fit to Us to grant them Our Royal Charter of incorporation as a British Company under the said name or title, or such other name or title, and with such powers, as to Us may seem fit for the purpose of more effectually carrying into effect the objects aforesaid.

That large sums of money have been subscribed for the purposes of the intended Company by the Petitioners and others, who are prepared also to subscribe or to procure such further sums as may hereafter be found requisite for the development of the said enterprise, in the event of Our being pleased to grant to them Our Royal Charter of incorporation as aforesaid.

NOW, THEREFORE, We having taken the said Petition

into Our Royal consideration in Our Council, and being satisfied that the intentions of the Petitioners are praiseworthy and deserve encouragement, and that the enterprise in the Petition described may be productive of the benefits set forth therein, by Our Prerogative Royal and of Our especial grace, certain knowledge and mere motion, have constituted erected and incorporated, and by this Our Charter for Us and Our Heirs and Royal successors do constitute erect and incorporate into one body politic and corporate by the name of The British South Africa Company the said James Duke of Abercorn, Alexander William George Duke of Fife, Edric Frederick Lord Gifford, Cecil John Rhodes, Alfred Beit, Albert Henry George Grey, and George Cawston, and such other persons and such bodies as from time to time become and are members of the body politic and corporate by these presents constituted, erected and incorporated with perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to break alter or renew the same at discretion, and with the further authorities powers and privileges conferred, and subject to the conditions imposed by this Our Charter: And We do hereby accordingly will, ordain, give, grant, constitute, appoint, and declare as follows (that is to say) :—

1. The principal field of the operations of The British South Africa Company (in this Our Charter referred to as “the Company”) shall be the region of South Africa lying immediately to the north of British Bechuanaland, and to the north and west of the South African Republic, and to the west of the Portuguese Dominions.

2. The Company is hereby authorised and empowered to hold, use and retain for the purposes of the Company and on the terms of this Our Charter, the full benefit of the concessions and agreements made as aforesaid, so far as they are valid, or any of them, and all interests, authorities, and powers comprised or referred to in the said concessions and agreements. Provided always that nothing herein contained shall prejudice or affect any other valid and subsisting concessions or agreements which may have been made by any of the chiefs or tribes aforesaid. And in particular nothing herein contained shall prejudice or affect certain concessions granted in and subsequent to the year 1880, relating to the territory usually known as the District of

the Tati ; nor shall anything herein contained be construed as giving any jurisdiction, administrative or otherwise, within the said District of the Tati, the limits of which District are as follows, viz. : from the place where the Shasi River rises to its junction with the Tati and Ramaquaban Rivers, thence along the Ramaquaban River to where it rises, and thence along the watershed of those rivers.

3. The Company is hereby further authorised and empowered, subject to the approval of one of Our Principal Secretaries of State (herein referred to as "Our Secretary of State"), from time to time, to acquire by any concession agreement grant or treaty, all or any rights interests authorities jurisdictions and powers of any kind or nature whatever, including powers necessary for the purposes of government, and the preservation of public order in or for the protection of territories, lands, or property, comprised or referred to in the concessions and agreements made as aforesaid or affecting other territories, lands, or property in Africa, or the inhabitants thereof, and to hold, use and exercise such territories, lands, property, rights, interests, authorities, jurisdictions and powers respectively for the purposes of the Company and on the terms of this Our Charter.

4. Provided that no powers of government or administration shall be exercised under or in relation to any such last-mentioned concession agreement grant or treaty, until a copy of such concession agreement grant or treaty in such form and with such maps or particulars as Our Secretary of State approves verified as he requires, has been transmitted to him, and he has signified his approval thereof either absolutely or subject to any conditions or reservations. And provided also that no rights, interests, authorities, jurisdictions or powers of any description shall be acquired by Company within the said District of the Tati, as hereinbefore described, without the previous consent in writing of the owners for the time being of the Concessions above referred to relating to the said District, and the approval of our Secretary of State.

5. The Company shall be bound by and shall fulfil all and singular the stipulations on its part contained in any such concession agreement grant or treaty as aforesaid, subject to any

subsequent agreement affecting those stipulations approved by Our Secretary of State.

6. The Company shall always be and remain British in character and domicile, and shall have its principal office in Great Britain; and the Company's principal representative in South Africa, and the Directors, shall always be natural born British subjects, or persons who have been naturalised as British subjects by or under an Act of Parliament of our United Kingdom; but this Article shall not disqualify any person nominated a Director by this Our Charter, or any person whose election as a Director shall have been approved by Our Secretary of State, from acting in that capacity.

7. In case at any time any difference arises between any chief or tribe inhabiting any of the territories aforesaid and the Company, that difference shall, if Our Secretary of State so require, be submitted by the Company to him for his decision, and the Company shall act in accordance with such decision.

8. If at any time Our Secretary of State thinks fit to dissent from or object to any of the dealings of the Company with any foreign power and to make known to the Company any suggestion founded on that dissent or objection, the Company shall act in accordance with such suggestion.

9. If at any time Our Secretary of State thinks fit to object to the exercise by the Company of any authority power or right within any part of the territories aforesaid, on the ground of there being an adverse claim to or in respect of that part, the Company shall defer to that objection until such time as any such claim has been withdrawn or finally dealt with or settled by Our Secretary of State.

10. The Company shall to the best of its ability preserve peace and order in such ways and manners as it shall consider necessary, and may with that object make ordinances (to be approved by Our Secretary of State) and may establish and maintain a force of police.

11. The Company shall to the best of its ability discourage and, so far as may be practicable, abolish by degrees, any system of slave trade or domestic servitude in the territories aforesaid.

12. The Company shall regulate the traffic in spirits and

other intoxicating liquors within the territories aforesaid, so as, as far as practicable, to prevent the sale of any spirits or other intoxicating liquor to any natives.

13. The Company as such, or its officers as such, shall not in any way interfere with the religion of any class or tribe of the peoples of the territories aforesaid or of any of the inhabitants thereof, except so far as may be necessary in the interests of humanity and all forms of religious worship or religious ordinances may be exercised within the said territories and no hindrance shall be offered thereto except as aforesaid.

14. In the administration of justice to the said peoples or inhabitants, careful regard shall always be had to the customs and laws of the class or tribe or nation to which the parties respectively belong, especially with respect to the holding, possession, transfer and disposition of lands and goods and testate or intestate succession thereto, and marriage divorce and legitimacy and other rights of property and personal rights, but subject to any British laws which may be in force in any of the territories aforesaid, and applicable to the peoples or inhabitants thereof.

15. If at any time Our Secretary of State thinks fit to dissent from or object to any part of the proceedings or system of the Company relative to the peoples of the territories aforesaid or to any of the inhabitants thereof, in respect of slavery or religion or the administration of justice, or any other matter, he shall make known to the Company his dissent or objection, and the Company shall act in accordance with his directions duly signified.

16. In the event of the Company acquiring any harbour or harbours, the Company shall freely afford all facilities for or to Our ships therein without payment except reasonable charges for work done or services rendered or materials or things supplied.

17. The Company shall furnish annually to Our Secretary of State, as soon as conveniently may be after the close of the financial year, accounts of its expenditure for administrative purposes and of all sums received by it by way of public revenue, as distinguished from its commercial profits during the financial year, together with a report as to its public proceedings and the condition of the territories within the sphere of its

operations. The Company shall also on or before the commencement of each financial year furnish to Our Secretary of State an estimate of its expenditure for administrative purposes, and of its public revenue (as above defined) for the ensuing year. The Company shall in addition from time to time furnish to Our Secretary of State any reports, accounts or information with which he may require to be furnished.

18. The several officers of the Company shall, subject to the rules of official subordination and to any regulations that may be agreed upon, communicate freely with Our High Commissioner in South Africa and any others Our officers, who may be stationed within any of the territories aforesaid, and shall pay due regard to any requirements suggestions or requests which the said High Commissioner or other officers shall make to them or any of them, and the Company shall be bound to enforce the observance of this Article.

19. The Company may hoist and use on its buildings and elsewhere in the territories aforesaid, and on its vessels, such distinctive flag indicating the British character of the Company as Our Secretary of State and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty shall from time to time approve.

20. Nothing in this Our Charter shall be deemed to authorise the Company to set up or grant any monopoly of trade; provided that the establishment of or the grant of concessions for banks, railways, tramways, docks, telegraphs, waterworks, or any other similar undertakings or the establishment of any system of patent or copyright approved by Our Secretary of State shall not be deemed monopolies for this purpose. The Company shall not, either directly or indirectly, hinder any Company or persons who now are or hereafter may be lawfully and peaceably carrying on any business concern or venture within the said District of the Tati hereinbefore described, but shall by permitting and facilitating transit by every lawful means to and from the District of the Tati across its own territories or where it has jurisdiction in that behalf and by all other reasonable and lawful means encourage, assist and protect all British subjects who now are or hereafter may be lawfully and peaceably engaged in the prosecution of a lawful enterprise within the said District of the Tati.

21. For the preservation of elephants and other game, the Company may make such other regulations and (notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained) may impose such licence duties on the killing or taking of elephants or other game as they may think fit : Provided that nothing in such regulations shall extend to diminish or interfere with any hunting rights which may have been or may hereafter be reserved to any native chiefs or tribes by treaty, save so far as any such regulations may relate to the establishment and enforcement of a close season.

22. The Company shall be subject to and shall perform and undertake all the obligations contained in or undertaken by Ourselves under any treaty agreement or arrangement between Ourselves and any other State or Power whether already made or hereafter to be made. In all matters relating to the observance of this Article, or to the exercise within the Company's territories for the time being, of any jurisdiction exercisable by Us under the Foreign Jurisdiction Acts, the Company shall conform to and observe and carry out all such directions as may from time to time be given in that behalf by Our Secretary of State, and the Company shall appoint all necessary officers to perform such duties, and shall provide such Courts and other requisites as may from time to time be necessary for the administration of justice.

23. The original share capital of the Company shall be £1,000,000 divided into 1,000,000 shares of £1 each.

24. The Company is hereby further specially authorized and empowered for the purposes of this Our Charter from time to time—

- (i) To issue shares of different classes or descriptions, to increase the share capital of the Company, and to borrow moneys by debentures or other obligations.
- (ii) To acquire and hold, and to charter or otherwise deal with, steam vessels and other vessels.
- (iii) To establish or authorise banking companies and other companies, and undertakings or associations of every description, for purposes consistent with the provisions of this Our Charter.
- (iv) To make and maintain roads railways telegraphs harbours

- and any other works which may tend to the development or improvement of the territories of the Company.
- (v) To carry on mining and other industries, and to make concessions of mining forestal or other rights.
 - (vi) To improve develop clear plant and irrigate and cultivate any lands included within the territories of the Company.
 - (vii) To settle any such territories and lands as aforesaid, and to aid and promote immigration.
 - (viii) To grant lands for terms of years or in perpetuity, and either absolutely, or by way of mortgage or otherwise.
 - (ix) To make loans or contributions of money or money's worth, for promoting any of the objects of the Company.
 - (x) To acquire and hold personal property.
 - (xi) To acquire and hold (without licence in mortmain or other authority than this Our Charter) lands in the United Kingdom, not exceeding five acres in all, at any one time for the purposes of the offices and business of the Company, and (subject to any local law) lands in any of Our Colonies or Possessions and elsewhere, convenient for carrying on the management of the affairs of the Company, and to dispose from time to time of any such lands when not required for that purpose.
 - (xii) To carry on any lawful commerce, trade, pursuit, business, operations, or dealing whatsoever in connection with the objects of the Company.
 - (xiii) To establish and maintain agencies in Our Colonies and Possessions, and elsewhere.
 - (xiv) To sue and be sued by the Company's name of incorporation, as well in Our Courts in Our United Kingdom, or in Our Courts in Our Colonies or Possessions, or in Our Courts in Foreign countries or elsewhere.
 - (xv) To do all lawful things incidental or conducive to the exercise or enjoyment of the rights, interests, authorities and powers of the Company in this Our Charter expressed or referred to, or any of them.

25. Within one year after the date of this Our Charter, or such extended period as may be certified by Our Secretary of State, there shall be executed by the Members of the Company for the time being a Deed of Settlement, providing so far as necessary for—

- (i) The further definition of the objects and purposes of the Company.
- (ii) The classes or descriptions of shares into which the capital of the Company is divided, and the calls to be made in respect thereof, and the terms and conditions of Membership of the Company.
- (iii) The division and distribution of profits.
- (iv) General Meetings of the Company; the appointment by Our Secretary of State (if so required by him) of an Official Director, and the number qualification appointment remuneration rotation removal and powers of Directors of the Company, and of other officers of the Company.
- (v) The registration of Members of the Company, and the transfer of shares in the capital of the Company.
- (vi) The preparation of annual accounts to be submitted to the Members at a General Meeting.
- (vii) The audit of those accounts by independent auditors.
- (viii) The making of bye-laws.
- (ix) The making and using of official seals of the Company.
 - (x) The constitution and regulation of Committees or Local Boards of Management.
 - (xi) The making and execution of supplementary deeds of settlement.
 - (xii) The winding up (in case of need) of the Company's affairs.
 - (xiii) The government and regulation of the Company, and of its affairs.
 - (xiv) Any other matters usual or proper to be provided for in respect of a chartered company.

26. The Deed of Settlement shall, before the execution thereof, be submitted to and approved by the Lords of Our Council, and a certificate of their approval thereof, signed by the Clerk of Our Council, shall be endorsed on this Our Charter, and be

conclusive evidence of such approval, and on the Deed of Settlement, and such Deed of Settlement shall take effect from the date of such approval, and shall be binding upon the Company, its Members, Officers and Servants, and for all other purposes whatsoever.

27. The provisions of the Deed of Settlement or of any supplementary Deed for the time being in force, may be from time to time repealed, varied or added to by a supplementary Deed, made and executed in such manner as the Deed of Settlement prescribes. Provided that the provisions of any such Deed relative to the Official Director shall not be repealed, varied or added to without the express approval of Our Secretary of State.

28. The Members of the Company shall be individually liable for the debts contracts engagements and liabilities of the Company to the extent only of the amount, if any, for the time being unpaid on the shares held by them respectively.

29. Until such Deed of Settlement as aforesaid takes effect the said James Duke of Abercorn shall be the President ; the said Alexander William George Duke of Fife shall be Vice-President ; and the said Edric Frederick Lord Gifford, Cecil John Rhodes, Alfred Beit, Albert Henry George Grey, and George Cawston, shall be the Directors of the Company ; and may on behalf of the Company do all things necessary or proper to be done under this Our Charter by or on behalf of the Company : Provided always that, notwithstanding anything contained in the Deed of Settlement of the Company, the said James Duke of Abercorn, Alexander William George Duke of Fife, and Albert Henry George Grey, shall not be subject to retire from office in accordance with its provisions but shall be and remain Directors of the Company until death, incapacity to act, or resignation, as the case may be.

30. And We do further will ordain and declare that this Our Charter shall be acknowledged by Our Governors and Our naval and military officers and Our consuls, and Our other officers in Our colonies and possessions, and on the high seas, and elsewhere, and they shall severally give full force and effect to this Our Charter, and shall recognise and be in all things aiding to the Company and its Officers.

31. And We do further will ordain and declare that this Our

Charter shall be taken construed and adjudged in the most favourable and beneficial sense for, and to the best advantage of the Company as well in Our Courts in Our United Kingdom, and in Our Courts in Our colonies or possessions, and in Our courts in foreign countries or elsewhere, notwithstanding that there may appear to be in this Our Charter any non-recital, mis-recital, uncertainty or imperfection.

32. And We do further will ordain and declare that this Our Charter shall subsist and continue valid, notwithstanding any lawful change in the name of the Company or in the Deed of Settlement thereof, such change being made with the previous approval of Our Secretary of State signified under his hand.

33. And We do further will ordain and declare that it shall be lawful for Us Our heirs and successors and We do hereby expressly reserve to Ourselves Our heirs and successors the right and power by writing under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom at the end of 25 years from the date of this Our Charter, and at the end of every succeeding period of ten years, to add to alter or repeal any of the provisions of this Our Charter or to enact other provisions in substitution for or in addition to any of its existing provisions: Provided that the right and power thus reserved shall be exercised only in relation to so much of this Our Charter as relates to administrative and public matters. And We do further expressly reserve to Ourselves, Our heirs and successors the right to take over any buildings or works belonging to the Company, and used exclusively or mainly for administrative or public purposes on payment to the Company of such reasonable compensation as may be agreed, or as failing agreement may be settled by the Commissioners of Our Treasury. And We do further appoint direct and declare that any such writing under the said Great Seal shall have full effect, and be binding upon the Company, its members, officers and servants, and all other persons, and shall be of the same force, effect, and validity as if its provisions had been part of and contained in these presents.

34. Provided always and we do further declare that nothing in this Our Charter shall be deemed or taken in any wise to limit or restrict the exercise of any of Our rights or powers with reference to the protection of any territories or with

reference to the government thereof should we see fit to include the same within Our dominions.

35. And we do lastly will, ordain and declare, without prejudice to any power to repeal this Our Charter by law belonging to Us Our heirs and successors, or to any of Our court, ministers or officers independently of this present declaration and reservation, that in case at any time it is made to appear to Us in Our Council that the Company has substantially failed to observe and conform to the provisions of this Our Charter, or that the Company is not exercising its powers under the concessions agreements grants and treaties aforesaid, so as to advance the interests which the Petitioners have represented to Us to be likely to be advanced by the grant of this Our Charter, it shall be lawful for Us Our heirs and successors, and we do hereby expressly reserve and take to Ourselves Our heirs and successors the right and power by writing under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom to revoke this Our Charter, and to revoke and annul the privileges powers and rights hereby granted to the Company.

In Witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patent.

Witness Ourself at Westminster, the 29th day of October, in the fifty-third year of Our reign.

By warrant under the Queen's Sign Manual.

MUIR MACKENZIE.



APPENDIX III

ORDER IN COUNCIL AS TO ENGLAND'S AUTHORITY IN SOUTHERN ZAMBESIA, PUBLISHED IN THE *LONDON GAZETTE* No. 26161 OF 15TH MAY 1891, p. 2603 *et seq.*

AT the Court at Windsor, the 9th day of May, 1891.

Present.

The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, Lord President, Lord Steward, Earl of Coventry.

Whereas the territories of South Africa situate within the limits of this Order, as hereinafter described, are under the protection of Her Majesty the Queen :

And whereas by treaty, grant, usage, sufferance, and other lawful means Her Majesty has power and jurisdiction in the said territories.

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers by "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890," or otherwise in Her Majesty vested, is pleased by and with the advice of Her Privy Council to order, and it is hereby ordered as follows :—

I. The limits of this Order are :—The parts of South Africa bounded by British Bechuanaland, the German Protectorate, the Rivers Chobe and Zambesi, the Portuguese Possessions, and the South African Republic.

II. The High Commissioner may on Her Majesty's behalf exercise all powers and jurisdiction which Her Majesty, at any time before or after the date of this Order, had or may have within the limits of this Order, and to that end may take or cause to be taken all such measures, and may do or cause to be

done all such matters and things within the limits of this Order as are lawful, and as in the interest of Her Majesty's service he may think expedient, subject to such instructions as he may from time to time receive from Her Majesty or through a Secretary of State.

III. The High Commissioner may appoint so many fit persons as in the interest of Her Majesty's Service he may think necessary to be Deputy Commissioners, or Resident Commissioners, or Assistant Commissioners, or Judges, Magistrates, or other officers, and may define from time to time the districts within which such officers shall respectively discharge their functions.

Every such officer may exercise such powers and authorities as the High Commissioner may assign to him, subject nevertheless to such directions and instructions as the High Commissioner may from time to time think fit to give him. The appointment of such officers shall not abridge, alter, or affect the right of the High Commissioner to execute and discharge all the powers and authorities hereby conferred upon him.

The High Commissioner may remove any officer so appointed.

IV. In the exercise of the powers and authorities hereby conferred upon him, the High Commissioner may, amongst other things, from time to time by Proclamation provide for the administration of justice, the raising of revenue, and generally for the peace, order, and good government of all persons within the limits of this Order, including the prohibition and punishment of acts tending to disturb the public peace.

The High Commissioner in issuing such Proclamations shall respect any native laws or customs by which the civil relations of any native chiefs, tribes, or populations under Her Majesty's protection are now regulated, except so far as the same may be incompatible with the due exercise of Her Majesty's power and jurisdiction.

V. Every Proclamation of the High Commissioner shall be published in the *Gazette*, and shall, from and after the expiration of one month from the commencement of such publication, and thereafter until disallowed by Her Majesty or repealed or modified by any subsequent Proclamation, have effect as if contained in this Order.

VI. Her Majesty may disallow any such Proclamation wholly or in part, and may signify such disallowance through a Secretary of State, and upon such disallowance being publicly notified by the High Commissioner in the *Gazette* the provisions so disallowed shall, one month after such publication, cease to have effect, but without prejudice to anything theretofore lawfully done thereunder.

VII. The Courts of British Bechuanaland shall have in respect of matters occurring within the limits of this Order the same jurisdiction, civil and criminal, original and appellate, as they respectively possess from time to time in respect of matters occurring within British Bechuanaland, and the judgments, decrees, orders, and sentences of any such Court made or given in the exercise of the jurisdiction hereby conferred may be enforced and executed, and appeals therefrom may be had and prosecuted in the same way as if the judgment, decree, order, or sentence had been made or given under the ordinary jurisdiction of the Court.

But the jurisdiction hereby conferred shall only be exercised by such Courts, and in such manner and to such extent, as the Governor of British Bechuanaland shall by proclamation from time to time direct.

VIII. Subject to any proclamation made under this Order any jurisdiction exercisable otherwise than under this Order, whether by virtue of any Statute or Order in Council, or of any Treaty, or otherwise, and whether exercisable by Her Majesty, or by any person on Her behalf, or by any Colonial or other Court, or under any Commission, or under any Charter granted by Her Majesty, shall remain in full force.

IX. Judicial notice shall be taken of this Order, and of the commencement thereof, and of any Proclamation made under this Order, and published in the *Gazette*, and of any Treaties affecting the territories within the limits of this Order, and published in the *Gazette*, or contained in papers presented to both Houses of Parliament by command of Her Majesty.

X. This Order shall be published in the *Gazette*, and shall thereupon commence and come into operation; and the High Commissioner shall give directions for the publication of this Order at such places, and in such manner, and for such time or

times as he thinks proper for giving due publicity thereto within the limits of this Order.

XI. The Orders in Council of the twenty-seventh day of January, one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five, for the establishment of Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction in Bechuanaland, and of the thirtieth day of June, one thousand eight hundred and ninety, providing for the exercise of Her Majesty's jurisdiction in certain Territories in South Africa, shall continue in force until the commencement of this Order and be thereupon revoked, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, and any Proclamation theretofore issued under the said Orders shall continue in operation until repealed or altered by any Proclamation of the High Commissioner under this Order.

XII. Her Majesty may from time to time revoke, alter, add to, or amend this Order.

XIII. In this Order, unless the subject or context otherwise requires,—

“Her Majesty” includes Her Majesty's heirs and successors.

“Secretary of State” means one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State.

“High Commissioner” means Her Majesty's High Commissioner for the time being for South Africa.

“Treaty” includes any existing or future Treaty, Convention, or Agreement between Her Majesty and any civilized Power, or any native tribe, people, Chief, or King, and any regulation appended to any such Treaty, Convention, or Agreement.

“Gazette” means any official Gazette published by authority of the High Commissioner, and until such Gazette is instituted, means the Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette.

C. L. PEEL.

Sections V. and VI. of the above Order in Council were subsequently amended, by an Order in Council dated 30th June 1891, as follows :—

I. The fifth and sixth sections of the said Order in Council of the 9th of May 1891 are hereby revoked, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder.

II. In lieu of the sections so revoked the following two sections

shall be taken to be part of the said Order, and shall be read as if they were the fifth and sixth sections thereof—

“V. Every Proclamation of the High Commissioner shall be published in the *Gazette*, and shall, from and after a date to be mentioned in such Proclamation, and thereafter until disallowed by Her Majesty or repealed or modified by any subsequent Proclamation, have effect as if contained in this Order.”

“VI. Her Majesty may disallow any such Proclamation wholly or in part, and may signify such disallowance through a Secretary of State, and upon such disallowance being publicly notified by the High Commissioner in the *Gazette* the provisions so disallowed shall, from and after a date to be mentioned in such notification, cease to have effect, but without prejudice to anything theretofore lawfully done thereunder.”

III. This Order shall be published in the Cape of Good Hope Government *Gazette*, and shall thereupon commence and come into operation; and the High Commissioner shall take such measures as he thinks proper for giving due publicity thereto within the limits of this Order.

C. L. PEEL.

APPENDIX IV

CONVENTION BETWEEN GREAT BRITAIN AND PORTUGAL, SIGNED AT LISBON ON JUNE 11TH 1891, AND PUBLISHED AS A PARLIAMENTARY PAPER [C.—6370] IN JUNE 1891.

ARTICLE I.

GREAT Britain agrees to recognise as within the dominion of Portugal in East Africa the territories bounded—

1. To the north by a line which follows the course of the River Rovuma from its mouth up to the confluence of the River M'Sinje, and thence westerly along the parallel of latitude of the confluence of these rivers to the shore of Lake Nyassa.

2. To the west by a line which, starting from the above-mentioned frontier on Lake Nyassa, follows the eastern shore of the lake southwards as far as the parallel of latitude $13^{\circ} 30'$ south; thence it runs in a south-easterly direction to the eastern shore of Lake Chiuta, which it follows. Thence it runs in a direct line to the eastern shore of Lake Chilwa, or Shirwa, which it follows to the south-easternmost point; thence in a direct line to the easternmost affluent of the River Ruo, and thence follows that affluent, and subsequently, the centre of the channel of the Ruo to its confluence with the River Shiré.

From the confluence of the Ruo and Shiré the boundary will follow the centre of the channel of the latter river to the point just below Chiwanga. Thence it runs due westward until it reaches the watershed between the Zambesi and the Shiré, and follows the watershed between those rivers, and afterwards between the former river and Lake Nyassa until it reaches parallel 14° of south latitude. From thence it runs in a south-

westerly direction to the point where south latitude 15° meets the River Aroangwa or Loangwa, and follows the mid-channel of that river to its junction with the Zambesi.

ARTICLE II.

To the south of the Zambesi the territories within the Portuguese sphere of influence are bounded by a line which, starting from a point opposite the mouth of the river Aroangwa or Loangwa, runs directly southwards as far as the 16th parallel of south latitude, follows that parallel to its intersection with the 31st degree of longitude east of Greenwich, thence running eastward direct to the point where the River Mazoe is intersected by the 33rd degree of longitude east of Greenwich; it follows that degree southwards to its intersection by the $18^{\circ} 30'$ parallel of south latitude; thence it follows the upper part of the eastern slope of the Manica plateau southwards to the centre of the main channel of the Sabi, follows that channel to its confluence with the Lunte, whence it strikes direct to the north-eastern point of the frontier of the South African Republic, and follows the eastern frontier of the Republic, and the frontier of Swaziland to the River Maputa.

It is understood that in tracing the frontier along the slope of the plateau, no territory west of longitude $32^{\circ} 30'$ east of Greenwich shall be comprised in the Portuguese sphere, and no territory east of longitude 33° east of Greenwich shall be comprised in the British sphere. The line shall, however, if necessary, be deflected so as to leave Mutassa in the British sphere, and Massi Kessi in the Portuguese sphere.

ARTICLE III.

Great Britain engages not to make any objection to the extension of the sphere of influence of Portugal, south of Delagoa Bay, as far as a line following the parallel of the confluence of the River Pongola with the River Maputa to the sea-coast.

ARTICLE IV.

It is agreed that the western line of division separating the British from the Portuguese sphere of influence in Central Africa

shall follow the centre of the channel of the Upper Zambesi, starting from the Katima Rapids up to the point where it reaches the territory of the Barotse kingdom. That territory shall remain within the British sphere; its limits to the westward, which will constitute the boundary between the British and Portuguese spheres of influence, being decided by a joint Anglo-Portuguese Commission, which shall have power, in case of difference of opinion, to appoint an umpire.

It is understood on both sides that nothing in this article shall affect the existing rights of any other State. Subject to this reservation, Great Britain will not oppose the extension of Portuguese administration outside the limits of the Barotse country.

ARTICLE V.

Portugal agrees to recognise as within the sphere of influence of Great Britain on the north of the Zambesi the territories extending from the line to be settled by the joint Commission mentioned in the preceding article, to Lake Nyassa, including the islands in that lake south of parallel $11^{\circ} 33'$ south latitude, and to the territories reserved to Portugal by the line described in Article I.

ARTICLE VI.

Portugal agrees to recognise, as within the sphere of influence of Great Britain to the south of the Zambesi, the territories bounded on the east and north-east by the line described in Article II.

ARTICLE VII.

All the lines of demarcation traced in Article I. to VI. shall be subject to rectification by agreement between the two Powers, in accordance with local requirements.

The two Powers agree that in the event of one of them proposing to part with any of the territories to the south of the Zambesi assigned by these Articles to their respective spheres of influence, the other shall be recognised as possessing a preferential right to the territories in question, or any portion of them, upon terms similar to those proposed.

ARTICLE VIII.

The two Powers engage that neither will interfere with any sphere of influence assigned to the other by Articles I. to VI. One Power will not, in the sphere of the other, make acquisitions, conclude treaties, or accept sovereign rights or protectorates.

It is understood that no companies nor individuals subject to one Power can exercise sovereign rights in a sphere assigned to the other, except with the assent of the latter.

ARTICLE IX.

Commercial or mineral concessions and rights to real property possessed by companies or individuals belonging to either Power shall, if their validity is duly proved, be recognised in the sphere of the other Power.

For deciding on the validity of mineral concessions given by the legitimate authority within 30 miles of either side of the frontier south of the Zambesi a tribunal of arbitration is to be named by common agreement.

It is understood that such concessions must be worked according to local regulations and laws.

ARTICLE X.

In all territories in East and Central Africa belonging to or under the influence of either Power missionaries of both countries shall have full protection. Religious toleration and freedom for all forms of Divine worship and religious teaching are guaranteed.

ARTICLE XI.

The transit of goods across Portuguese territories situated between the East Coast and the British sphere shall not, for a period of 25 years from the ratification of this Convention, be subjected to duties in excess of 3 per cent. for imports or for exports. These duties shall in no case have a differential character, and shall not exceed the Customs dues levied on the same goods in the above-mentioned territories.

Her Majesty's Government shall have the option, within five years from the date of the signature of this agreement, to claim

freedom of transit for the remainder of the period of 25 years on payment of a sum capitalising the annual duties for that period at the rate of £30,000 a year.

Coin and precious metals of all descriptions shall be imported and exported to and from the British sphere free of transit duty.

It is understood that there shall be freedom for the passage of subjects and goods of both Powers across the Zambesi, and through the districts adjoining the left bank of the river situated above the confluence of the Shiré, and those adjoining the right bank of the Zambesi situated above the confluence of the River Luenha (Ruenga), without hindrance of any description and without payment of transit dues.

It is further understood that in the above-named districts each Power shall have the right, so far as may be reasonably required for the purpose of communication between territories under the influence of the same Power, to construct roads, railways, bridges, and telegraph lines across the district reserved to the other. The two Powers shall have the right of acquiring in these districts on reasonable conditions the land necessary for such objects, and shall receive all other requisite facilities. Portugal shall have the same rights in the British territory on the banks of the Shiré and in the British territory comprised between the Portuguese territory and the banks of Lake Nyassa. Any railway so constructed by one Power on the territory of the other shall be subject to local regulations and laws agreed upon between the two Governments, and, in case of differences of opinion, subject to arbitration as hereinafter mentioned.

The two Powers shall also be allowed facilities for constructing on the rivers within the above districts piers and landing-places for the purpose of trade and navigation.

Differences of opinion between the two Governments as to the execution of their respective obligations, incurred in accordance with the provisions of the preceding paragraph, shall be referred to the arbitration of two experts, one of whom shall be chosen on behalf of each Power. These experts shall select an umpire, whose decision, in case of difference between the arbitrators, shall be final. If the two experts cannot agree upon the choice of an umpire, this umpire shall be selected by a neutral Power to be named by the two Governments.

All materials for the construction of roads, railways, bridges, and telegraph lines shall be admitted free of charge.

ARTICLE XII.

The navigation of the Zambesi and Shiré, without excepting any of their branches and outlets, shall be entirely free for the ships of all nations.

The Portuguese Government engages to permit and to facilitate transit for all persons and goods of every description over the waterways of the Zambesi, the Shiré, the Pungwe, the Busi, the Limpopo, the Sabi, and their tributaries and also over the landways which supply means of communication where these rivers are not navigable.

ARTICLE XIII.

Merchant ships of the two Powers shall in the Zambesi, its branches, and outlets have equal freedom of navigation, whether with cargo or ballast, for the transportation of goods and passengers. In the exercise of this navigation the subjects and flags of both Powers shall be treated, in all circumstances, on a footing of perfect equality, not only for the direct navigation from the open sea to the inland ports of the Zambesi, and *vice versa*, but for the great and small coasting trade, and for boat trade on the course of the river. Consequently on all the course and mouths of the Zambesi there will be no differential treatment of the subjects of the two Powers; and no exclusive privilege of navigation will be conceded by either to companies, corporations, or private persons.

The navigation of the Zambesi shall not be subject to any restriction or obligation based merely on the fact of navigation. It shall not be exposed to any obligation in regard to landing-station or depôt, or for breaking bulk, or for compulsory entry into port. In all the extent of the Zambesi the ships and goods in process of transit on the river shall be submitted to no transit dues, whatever their starting-place or destination. No maritime or river toll shall be levied based on the sole fact of navigation, nor any tax on goods on board of ships. There shall only be collected taxes or duties which shall be an equivalent for services

rendered to navigation itself. The tariff of these taxes or duties shall not warrant any differential treatment.

The affluents of the Zambesi shall be in all respects subject to the same rules as the river of which they are tributaries.

The roads, paths, railways, or lateral canals which may be constructed with the special object of correcting the imperfections in the river route on certain sections of the course of the Zambesi, its affluents, branches, and outlets shall be considered, in their quality of means of communication, as dependencies of this river, and as equally open to the traffic of both Powers. And, as on the river itself, so there shall be collected on these roads, railways, and canals only tolls calculated on the cost of construction, maintenance, and management, and on the profits due to the promoters. As regards the tariff of these tolls, strangers and the natives of the respective territories shall be treated on a footing of perfect equality.

Portugal undertakes to apply the principles of freedom of navigation enunciated in this article on so much of the waters of the Zambesi, its affluents, branches, and outlets, as are or may be under her sovereignty, protection, or influence. The rules which she may establish for the safety and control of navigation shall be drawn up in a way to facilitate, as far as possible, the circulation of merchant ships.

Great Britain accepts, under the same reservations, and in identical terms, the obligations undertaken in the preceding articles in respect of so much of the waters of the Zambesi, its affluents, branches, and outlets as are or may be under her sovereignty, protection, or influence.

Any questions arising out of the provisions of this article shall be referred to a joint commission, and, in case of disagreement to arbitration.

Another system of the administration and control of the Zambesi may be substituted for the above arrangements by common consent of the Riverain Powers.

ARTICLE XIV.

In the interest of both Powers Portugal agrees to grant absolute freedom of the passage between British sphere of influence and Pungwe Bay for all merchandise of every description, and

to give the necessary facilities for the improvement of the means of communication.

The Portuguese Government agree to construct a railway between Pungwe and the British sphere. The survey of this line shall be completed within six months, and the two Governments shall agree as to the time within which the railway shall be commenced and completed. If an agreement is not arrived at the Portuguese Government will give the construction of the railway to a company which shall be designated by a neutral Power, to be selected by the two Governments, as being in its judgment competent to undertake the work immediately. The said company shall have all requisite facilities for the acquisition of land, cutting timber, and free importation and supply of materials and labour.

The Portuguese Government shall either itself construct or shall procure the construction of a road from the highest navigable point of the Pungwe, or other river which may be agreed upon as more suitable for traffic, to the British sphere, and shall construct or procure the construction in Pungwe Bay and on the river of the necessary landing-places.

It is understood that no dues shall be levied on goods in transit by the river, the road, or the railway, exceeding the *maximum* of 3 per cent. under the conditions stipulated in Article XI.

ARTICLE XV.

Great Britain and Portugal engage to facilitate telegraphic communication in their respective spheres.

The stipulations contained in Article XIV. as regards the construction of a railway from Pungwe Bay to the interior shall be applicable in all respects to the construction of a telegraph line for communication between the coast and the British sphere south of the Zambesi. Questions as to the points of departure and termination of the line, and as to other details if not arranged by common consent, shall be submitted to the arbitration of experts under the conditions prescribed in Article XI.

Portugal engages to maintain telegraphic service between the coast and the River Ruo, which service shall be open to the use

of the subjects of the two Powers without any differential treatment.

Great Britain and Portugal engage to give every facility for the connection of telegraphic lines constructed in their respective spheres.

Details in respect to such connection, and in respect to questions relating to the settlement of through tariffs and other charges, shall, if not settled by common consent, be referred to the arbitration of experts under the conditions prescribed in Article XI.

1. A note shall be addressed to Her Majesty's Government by the Portuguese Government, undertaking to lease for 99 years to persons named by Her Majesty's Government land at the Chinde mouth of the Zambesi, to be used under regulations for the landing, storage, and transhipment of goods. Sites, price, and regulations to be arranged by three Commissioners to be named one by each of the two Governments and the third by a neutral Power to be selected by them. In case of difference of opinion among the Commissioners, the decision of the majority to be final. A note shall also be addressed to the Portuguese Government by her Majesty's Government undertaking, on the demand of the former, to lease on similar conditions and for similar purposes to persons named by the Portuguese Government land in some spot on the south-western coast of Lake Nyassa which shall be agreed upon between the two Governments as suitable for the purpose.

2. Notes shall be exchanged between Her Majesty's Government and the Portuguese Government with regard to the traffic rates to be charged on the railway similar to those exchanged on August 20, 1890.

2. Notes shall be exchanged between the two Governments, agreeing that the importation of ardent spirits to either bank of the Zambesi and Shiré by those rivers, whether in the British or Portuguese sphere, shall be interdicted, and that the authorities of the two States shall agree upon the arrangements necessary to prevent and punish infractions of this article.

APPENDIX V

The British South Africa Company

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR PERSONS DESIROUS OF PROCEEDING TO MASHONALAND.

General.—Persons desirous of proceeding to Mashonaland should arrange, if possible, to be at the Cape ready to commence the journey not later than the middle of April. They will thus be able to utilize to the utmost the dry season, which lasts, generally speaking, from about the end of April to the end of November. The voyage from London to Capetown takes, on the average, 19 days.

Choice of Routes.—There are at present *two main routes* from Capetown to Mashonaland—

1. By “Up-country Route,” *i.e.* by train to Vryburg or Johannesburg, and then by post-cart or ox-waggon through Bechuanaland or the Transvaal to Tuli, and on by the Pioneer Road to Salisbury; or—

2. By the “East Coast Route,” *i.e.* by sea to Beira at the mouth of the Pungwe River, on the East Coast of Africa, and thence *viâ* Umtali to Salisbury.

Vryburg is 916 miles from Salisbury, Beira 380 miles.

1. *Up-country Route.*—From Vryburg to Tuli by *post-cart* (520 miles) takes 8 days.

From Pretoria to Tuli by *coach* (380 miles) takes 3 days.

Both the above routes converge at Tuli, whence the journey is continued by coach as follows: *Tuli to Victoria* (200 miles) takes 4 days. *Victoria to Salisbury* (200 miles) takes 2 days.

The average cost of living on journey up country is about £1 per diem. The hotel charges in *Capetown* are from 5s. 6d. to

12s. 6d. per diem ; in *Kimberley*, 7s. 6d. to 15s. per diem ; in *Bechuanaland* and the *Transvaal* the charges are about the same as at *Kimberley*.

Waggon Transport.—Waggons are available from *Johannesburg* (only 33 miles from *Pretoria*) all the year round ; are most plentiful in spring and early autumn, and scarcest in dead winter. The dearest rates rule in mid-winter.

The time occupied by waggon varies very much, according to the state of the roads, being longest during the rainy season. The best journeys are made in early autumn.

The time occupied by ox-waggon is—

From *Pretoria* or *Johannesburg* to *Tuli*, from 2½ to 5 weeks.

From *Pretoria* or *Johannesburg* to *Victoria*, from 5 to 10 weeks.

From *Pretoria* or *Johannesburg* to *Salisbury*, from 8 to 16 weeks.

The extreme variation in time in reckoning ox-waggon transport will be noticed. An average cannot be struck. With good condition of roads and good "veldt" (cross-country going) a carrier will do the distance in half the time he will take in unfavourable circumstances.

(MEMO.—There is a transit duty of 1 per cent. levied by the *Transvaal* customs on foreign goods going beyond the State. If taken on at once this is, it is believed, the only charge ; but if off-loaded in the State, the goods must be stored in a Government bonding store, and are then subject to a further 5 per cent. on the duty levied, that is 5 per cent. on 1 per cent., and Government storage charges, which are heavy. This charge of storage could be avoided by giving due notice of the consignment, so that waggons could be engaged and ready to take on the goods on arrival.)

Persons with a large quantity of baggage would probably find it cheaper to buy a waggon. The cost of waggon, oxen, and gear complete is about £250, and it is capable of transporting three tons of goods. The waggon and oxen could probably be resold on arrival at *Salisbury*, if desired. Spare oxen should be taken, as it would be difficult to replace them *en route*.

Ox-waggons complete are from £100 to £110 each.

Oxen, sixteen to each waggon, are from £6 10s. to £7 10s. each.

Waggon gear, *i.e.* chains, straps, yokes, etc., for sixteen oxen, say, from £25 to £30 for each waggon.

Horses are from £10 to £20 each.

"Salted" horses, *i.e.* horses that have recovered from the disease known as "horse sickness," are from £40 to £70 each.

Donkeys are from £3 10s. to £5 each.

Mules, from £15 to £20 each.

"Salted" mules are about £30 each.

"Cape carts" with springs, and tented, to hold four persons, are from £70 to £85 each.

"Scotch carts" are from £40 to £45 each.

Ox-waggons can best be purchased at Capetown or Kimberley.

"Cape carts" at Capetown.

"Scotch carts" at Kimberley.

Oxen, horses, and mules at Kimberley or Vryburg.

Donkeys at Vryburg.

Wages of Natives.—Each waggon should have a native driver and a native leader for the oxen. Drivers are paid at the rate of £6 per month and rations. Leaders are paid £4 per month and rations.

Natives who are employed for various other duties are paid at the rate of from 15s. to 20s. per week and rations.

Rations.—The following is the Company's ration allowance per white man per diem :—

Meat, 1 lb.	...	...	...	per diem.
Meal, 1 lb. 4 oz.	...	...	...	"
Sugar, 3 oz.	...	...	...	"
Coffee, 1 oz.	...	...	...	"
Tea, 8 drms.	...	...	...	"
Pepper, $\frac{1}{2}$ drm.	...	...	..	"
Salt, 8 drms.	...	...	...	"
Compressed vegetables, 4 drms.	...	...	...	"
Rice, 8 drms.	...	...	...	"
Peas (split), 12 drms.	...	...	...	"
Potatoes, 4 oz.	...	...	...	"

Should potatoes not be procurable, and they are very often scarce, the quantity should be made up with compressed vegetables, rice, or split peas.

Rations for natives per man per diem :—

1 lb. meal (Boer or Mealie, <i>i.e.</i> Indian corn or maize)...	...	...	...	per diem.
1 lb. meat	...	...	...	"
1 oz. coffee	...	...	...	"
2 oz. sugar	...	...	...	"
$\frac{1}{2}$ oz. salt	...	...	...	"

It is suggested by the British South Africa Company to those people intending to travel to Mashonaland, or at least those who travel by ox-waggon, to adopt the Bechuanaland route, as the route through the Transvaal subjects one to very heavy fines, or rather duties, imposed upon all goods even passing through by the Transvaal Government.

The agents of the British South Africa Company at Kimberley and Vryburg are always willing to give any advice to persons intending to travel into the interior on matters connected with the purchase of waggons, oxen, and all materials in connection with outfitting.

2. *The East Coast Route.*—From London to Beira, the port on the East Coast of Africa at the mouth of the Pungwe and Busi rivers, the following lines of steamers have a regular service :—the Union, Castle, and Aberdeen Clipper.

Durban (Natal) to Beira (Pungwe River).—The Union and Aberdeen Clipper steamers leave Durban for Beira about every three weeks.

The Castle Line steamers leave Durban for Beira about every fortnight.

The Natal Direct Line (Bullard, King, and Co.) steamers leave Durban for Beira about the 26th of every month, slightly varying to suit the arrival of the ocean boats.

From Beira to Salisbury, Mashonaland.—At Beira goods are transhipped into small steamers and lighters for conveyance up the Pungwe to Fontesvilla (40 miles from Beira), to which point the river is navigable at all seasons.

At present there are no regular sailings, but river steamers are sent up according to requirements, and at present average twice or thrice per week.

A railway 75 miles in length has been opened for traffic from Fontesvilla to Chimoio (73 miles from Umtali), which is the

terminus of this first section of the line, its final goal being Salisbury.

The Salisbury Transport Company have of late been running a waggon service for passengers from Chimoio to Umtali, and are always prepared to supply Scotch carts or waggons and oxen at short notice.

The roadside halting-places, after leaving Chimoio, are: 15 miles, 35 miles, 60 miles (this last 15 miles from Umtali).

It is estimated that the journey from Beira to Umtali takes one day by river, one day by railway, and six days walking, or three by Scotch cart.

An excellent waggon road has been constructed from Chimoio to Umtali, and thence to Salisbury (149½ miles), and there is an abundance of transport.

Post-cart.—A post-cart runs once a week (Saturday afternoons) from Umtali to Salisbury. The contract time for the journey is 96 hours, but the post-cart has done the distance in 69 hours.

MEMORANDUM OF THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS UPON WHICH PERSONS ARE PERMITTED TO PROSPECT FOR MINERALS AND METALS IN MASHONALAND.

PROSPECTING LICENCES.

1. Any person may take out a licence on binding himself in writing to obey the Laws of the Company and to assist in the defence and maintenance of Law and Order, if called upon to do so by the Company—such licence to bear a stamp of the value of one shilling.

RIGHT OF PROSPECTING HOLDERS TO PEG OFF CLAIMS.

2. Every licence-holder is free to peg off one alluvial claim and ten quartz-reef claims in block. When the claims have been marked off the same shall be registered, and the licence-holder shall receive a certificate of registration—such certificate to bear a stamp of the value of half-a-crown.

SIZE OF CLAIMS.

3. Alluvial claims are in extent 150 feet by 150 feet. Quartz-reef claims are in extent 150 feet in the direction of the reef and 400 feet abroad. The claimholder may follow the reef in all its dips, spurs, angles and variations.

TERMS ON WHICH QUARTZ-REEF CLAIMS MAY BE HELD.

4. Every registered quartz-reef claim is to be held by the prospector on joint account in equal shares with the Company, and every transfer, hypothecation, or lien of his interest in such claims is subject to the rights of the Company.

REGISTRATION OF ALLUVIAL CLAIMS.

5. Certificates of registration of an alluvial claim or portion of claim in any alluvial digging are to be covered by a stamp of £1 for each month for which such claim or portion of claim is registered, payable in advance ; the Company, however, claims no rights in respect to gold won from alluvial claims.

DISCOVERIES OF ALLUVIAL DIGGINGS.

6. The discoverer of an alluvial digging, distant not less than ten miles from any known alluvial digging, shall have the right to peg out two alluvial claims in addition to his other rights.

WORK TO BE DONE ON CLAIMS.

7. Every digger shall within four months from the registration of the block of claims, under penalty of forfeiture of his claim licence, sink upon his block of quartz-reef claims either a shaft of a depth of 30 feet in the reef or a shaft of at least 30 feet outside the reef with a cross-cut through the reef.

CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION.

8. So soon as the claimholder has done the required amount of work and has given evidence that he has opened up a payable reef, he shall receive an Inspection Certificate to the effect that the required work has been done—such certificate to bear a stamp of the value of fifteen shillings.

PAYMENT OF CLAIM LICENCE.

9. Prior to flotation the claimholders shall pay no licence. After flotation the licence shall be at the rate of 10s. (ten shillings) per claim per month.

FLOTATION.

10. On claims being ascertained to be payable, the Company have the right to float them into either a joint stock company or into a syndicate. The Company shall therefore within a reasonable time either make a proposal or decline to do so. If the proposal is accepted by the claimholder he shall on flotation be entitled to half the vendors' scrip in the shares of the company so floated. If the claimholder is not satisfied with the Company's proposals, he has the right within one year to prove to the Company that he is in a position to float on better terms, and he shall, on the flotation of the claims, give the Company half the vendors' scrip.

PEGGING OUT OF ADDITIONAL CLAIMS.

11. Any claimholder shall be at liberty to peg out a fresh block of ten (10) claims—
- (i) When he shall have given notice of abandonment of his existing block of ten claims.
 - (ii) When he has received his Inspection Certificate from the Mining Commissioner.

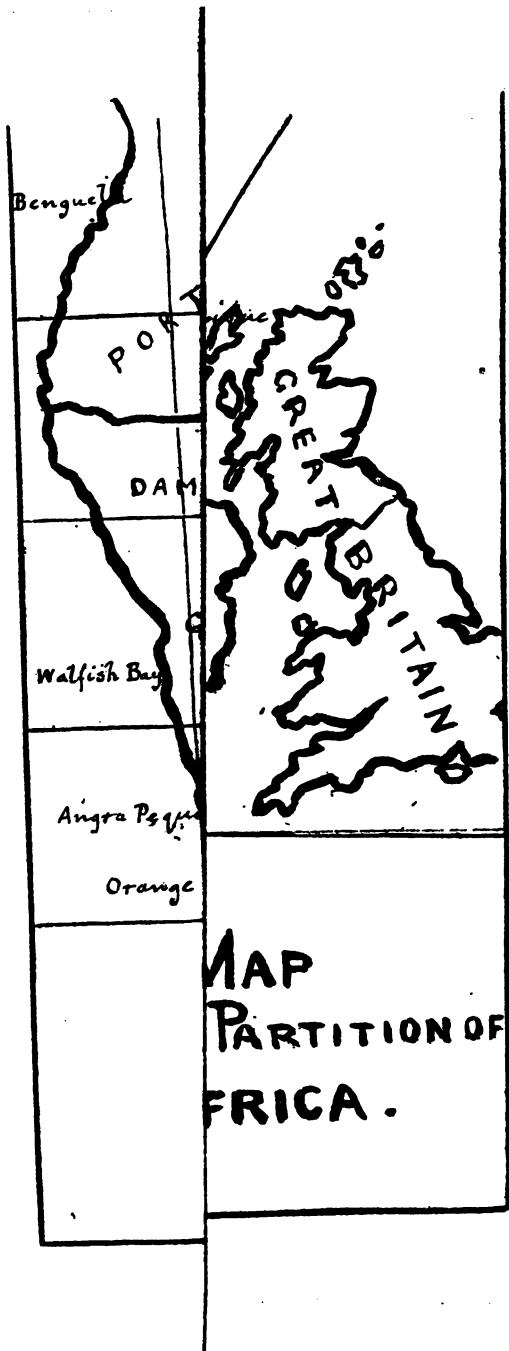
But no claimholder who has acquired his claim or claims as a prospector shall be the registered claimholder of more than two blocks of claims of 10 claims each.

AGREEMENT.

12. An agreement, binding prospectors to abide by the law of the Company under penalty of forfeiture of rights, is to be signed by all the prospectors either at Kimberley or Tuli.

SYNOPSIS OF MINING AND PROSPECTING REGULATIONS.

For the information of gold diggers and settlers who may be intending to proceed to the Mashonaland Gold Fields, the



Bengueli

PORT

DAM

Walfish Bay

Angra Psique

Orange

GREAT BRITAIN

MAP
PARTITION OF
AFRICA.

British South Africa Company gives the following short summary of the Laws and Regulations under which persons will be allowed to dig for precious metals within the sphere of the Company's operations :—

A prospector's licence must be taken out by any one wishing to search for precious metals. Prospecting licences can be obtained from the Company's Mining Commissioner in Mashonaland, or at the Company's office in Cape Town, at a cost of one shilling.

A Prospecting licence binds the holder to obey the Laws and Regulations of the Company. Every holder of a Prospecting licence shall have the right to peg off one alluvial claim of 150 feet square, and ten reef claims (in one block), each reef claim being 150 feet by 400 feet.

A licence of £1 per month per claim will be charged on all alluvial claims worked.

Any claimholder, after pegging off his block of reef claims, must develop his claims to the extent required by the Mining Commissioner, who will then issue an Inspection Certificate, after which arrangements can be made for the flotation of the block into a joint stock company, on the terms that the Company and the claimholder divide equally the purchase-price paid for the property.

In reef claims no licence beyond the Prospecting Licence is necessary until the block of claims is floated into a company, when a licence of ten shillings per claim per month becomes payable.

To encourage prospecting, any discoverer of a payable alluvial gold field shall have the right to peg off two alluvial claims in addition to his other rights.

The best route to the Mashona Gold Fields is by a steamer to Cape Town, thence by railway *via* Kimberley to Vryburg, Bechuanaland, from which town a good waggon road extends northwards through the Bechuanaland Protectorate, *via* Mafeking and Palapye to the Macloutsie River, whence the British South Africa Company has constructed a road through the south-east of Matabeleland to Salisbury, in the heart of Mashonaland.

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